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PLO senior adviser and negotiator Nabil Shaath listens to Police Minister Moshe Shahal answer a question yesterday as they meet the press in Ramat Aviv following their session on security issues. (Story, Page 2).

Arafat: J'lem talks must begin now

Palestinian Authority members may quit if press freedom issue is not resolved

JON IMMANUEL

PLO leader Yasser Arafat demanded yesterday that Israel immediately begin talks on the status of Jerusalem.

He said that in negotiations with Jordan, Israel had broken the agreement not to address the status of Jerusalem, and the Palestinians had therefore decided to demand that talks on Jerusalem begin with them, too.

The PLO chairman said it made no difference whether Israel had discussed control over religious sites or political control with Jordan, since the two are linked.

"For us Jerusalem is one issue, one cause. It is not only a political issue, it is a sovereignty issue. It is an issue of holy, sacred places for Christians and Moslems," Arafat told a press conference in Gaza.

Arafat did not specifically mention Jordan, but was clearly referring to the Washington Declaration's reaffirmation of Jordan's authority, through the Wafk, over the Moslem holy places in the city.

"OK, if they have decided to start now then we are insisting to start now," Arafat said, basing himself on part of a clause in the Israeli-Palestinian Declaration of Principles that says such talks should start "as soon as possible."

In response, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told ITV Channel 1 yesterday that, "Even if the subject of Jerusalem is raised as agreed, at the latest two years from now, Jerusalem in any case must remain united under Israeli sovereignty."

"United Jerusalem is the de facto capital of the State of Israel," Rabin said.

The Washington Declaration was attacked by Hamas leaders in Gaza yesterday. Ibrahim Yassir told the eastern Jerusalem daily *Al-Kuds* that "Jerusalem must be under Palestinian control, politically and religiously. There is no difference between religion and

politics." Outside Gaza, Hamas supporters are considered closer to Jordan.

The Palestinian-Jordanian dispute over control of the holy places is considered the real reason for the police ban on *An-Nahar*, a pro-Jordanian newspaper based in eastern Jerusalem that praised Jordan's continued control over Islamic holy places.

Addressing the controversy over the ban, Arafat told reporters that, as in all democratic states, *An-Nahar* should apply for a license and its request would be

clear how the Palestinian Police enforced the ban outside the autonomous areas, where they are not present and have no legal authority.

Sources close to *An-Nahar* said there had been physical threats against the paper's employees by local youths belonging to Fatah, whom they said received orders from senior officials in Gaza and Jericho.

No critics, including Hanan Ashrawi's independent commission for citizens' rights or Palestinian journalists, have yet directly accused Arafat of ordering the ban on *An-Nahar*. But human

Israel-PLO economic talks held in capital, Page 2

examined, it was reported.

But almost no one accepts this reason for the ban. At least two members of the Palestinian Authority have threatened to resign if the issue of press freedom is not resolved, Palestinian sources said last night.

Othman Halak, *An-Nahar's* editor, said yesterday he had not voluntarily ceased distribution in Jerusalem, but that the Palestinian Police had banned the distribution of *An-Nahar* everywhere, not only in Gaza and Jericho.

Halak said that he closed the newspaper after Arafat aides canceled a meeting with the PLO chairman on Sunday.

"I expected an announcement that the ban would be lifted, but then they called me and said that the meeting was canceled and that the ban remained. Since then the ban on distribution has been imposed everywhere," he said.

There have been no written orders banning the distribution of the newspaper, but Palestinian policemen have physically prevented its circulation in Gaza and Jericho. It was not

rights agencies and 35 journalists, who signed a petition against the ban, voiced frustration and anger yesterday.

Bassam Eid, chief field worker at B'tselem, the human rights organization established to monitor Israeli army activities during the intifada, called on foreign donor countries to withhold foreign aid until *An-Nahar* is reopened. He also urged massive demonstrations against press restrictions.

"I call on the Palestinian people to demonstrate and do everything possible until the newspaper is reopened," he told Israel Radio.

Aff Salem, the night editor at *An-Nahar*, called the ban on distributing the paper "a blow against the patriotic Palestinian Authority."

However, many Palestinian observers doubted the issue would be solved quickly. After Arafat signed a multimillion dollar agreement with Japan and the United Nations yesterday for a project to clean up Gaza, one cynic said the clean-up campaign would include the newspapers distributed there.

Man drowns, 2 missing in stormy seas

DAVID RUDGE

A MAN drowned and two others were missing after entering stormy seas yesterday.

The Haifa district police spokeswoman said searches for the two missing swimmers continued even after darkness fell.

The first incident occurred at Nohavik Beach near Caesarea, when Mohammed Shuman, 20, of Beit Hanina in Jerusalem, entered the water in the early afternoon with a younger cousin, and the two were swept out to sea.

Lifeguards managed to save the cousin but were unable to rescue Shuman in time.

The second incident happened at the Aqueduct Beach near Caesarea when a 25-year-old Haifa resident, who had gone to the beach with his family, went into the sea and disappeared.

Around the same time, a 13-year-old girl was reported missing at the Habonim Beach, where there are no lifeguards.

Agricultural produce from areas to be imported as of today

GALIT LIPKIS BECK and JOSE ROSENFELD

ISRAEL will open its markets to most agricultural produce from the territories today in the framework of the economic agreement signed by Israel and the PLO, the Agriculture Ministry announced yesterday.

Implementation of the agreement comes after many months of negotiations between Israel and Palestinian officials, on issues related to health standards.

Agriculture Ministry director-general Yonatan Basi met yesterday with Mohammed A-Raiz, head of the Palestinian agriculture delegation, for a final coordination meeting.

"We plan to open the gates of Gaza so that agricultural produce can be exported into Israel," Basi said yesterday.

According to the agreement signed by Israel and the PLO, most agricultural products from the territories will be allowed to enter Israel. Quotas have been imposed on the import of Palestinian tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers, melons, poultry and eggs, but these will be eliminated

within four years.

The Agriculture Ministry has received NIS 12 million from the Treasury to establish a division that will supervise all vegetable and livestock imports. In addition, the Treasury agreed to provide NIS 250m. in compensation to

vegetable growers who will be affected by the imports.

Basi said he does not anticipate an immediate change in local produce prices, noting that the Gaza strip has a shortage of eggs and poultry and does not have excess supplies of other agricultural products. But he predicted that produce prices would fall in the long run.

Earlier in the day, the Treasury had called on the Agriculture Ministry to stop delaying permission for the passage of agricultural produce from the autonomous areas into Israel, and to take other steps to reduce vegetable prices.

The Treasury noted that it has provided the ministry with ways to control vegetable prices, including financing the destruction of produce in order to maintain a minimum price floor. But Treasury spokesman Eli Yoseph said the ministry has been destroying more crops than needed and vegetable prices have been climbing as a result.

Army to monitor produce from territories

THE army will conduct routine checks of Palestinian trucks carrying fresh produce from the territories into Israel, following a decision to allow imports of fruit and vegetables from Gaza and Jericho.

The checks will be part of an effort to prevent the smuggling of arms and other contraband.

Alon Pinkas

Jordan-Israel border crossing to open next week

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Jordan's King Hussein, and US Secretary of State Warren Christopher are expected to meet next week just north of Eilat, and declare the opening of a border crossing for tourists from three countries.

Technicalities surrounding the opening will be discussed today, as Israeli and Jordanian officials meet in Ein Avrona, also just north of Eilat. Both Jordan and

Israel are counting on economic benefits from opening the border. Discussions will also be held on establishing telephone and postal links, as called for in last week's Washington Declaration, Foreign Ministry deputy director-general Eitan Bentsur said yesterday.

Tomorrow, Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinians will hold their second

trilateral talks in two weeks when environmental experts convene in Taba, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Ministry spokesman Gil Reich said each of the three would send a professional delegation to discuss regional environmental issues.

"It's a meeting of experts, and

they are going to talk about problems related to the three sides," Reich said.

Starting on Monday, Israeli and Jordanian officials will hold talks on a range of issues, including border demarcation and water allocation. The meeting is scheduled to be held at the Moniah Hotel on the Israeli side of the Dead Sea, marking the first time Jordanian officials will publicly be visiting Israel.

August rain not unusual, meteorologists say

DAVID RUDGE

RAIN fell in various places along the coast and in the coastal plain region yesterday, as normally hot and sticky August got off to an unseasonably cool start.

Experts at the Beit Dagan meteorological bureau said the cool weather was expected to continue through to Thursday, with the chance of more showers and drizzle in the central and northern part of the country today.

The duty weather forecaster said it was not uncommon to have light drizzle at this time of year, but the heavier showers that fell yesterday and the duration of the cool spell are unusual.

He noted that temperatures were only two or three degrees centigrade less than average for the season. The real difference was in the marked drop in humidity - by as much as 30 percent - especially along the coast, and stronger winds reaching up to 40 kph in some places.

The unstable weather, caused by low pressure in the upper atmosphere, resulted in clouds forming at a greater height than usual for this time of year. The cooler air led to showers in places like Netanya, and parts of Tel Aviv and Rishon LeZion.

The cool spell has not, however,

reduced water consumption. Demand for water rose by more than 10% in the first half of this year compared to the same period last year, Water Commissioner Gideon Tsur announced yesterday.

Tsur said the total amount of water supplied to farmers, as well as to domestic and industrial consumers reached 780 million cubic meters from the beginning of the year until the end of June, 75 million cu. m. more than in the first half of 1993.

He said it appeared that the increase in demand was primarily due to the low amount of precipitation last winter.

Tsur said that although overall consumption was less than the maximum quota of 793 million cu. m. assumed for the period, he was particularly concerned about the rise in demand for water for domestic use.

He said it appeared the public felt that after the two previous wet winters, the reservoirs were full and the problems of water supply had been solved, despite last winter's drought. He stressed, however, that there was still a need to conserve water and reduce domestic consumption.

Meanwhile the level of water in Lake Kinneret, one of the country's main fresh-water sources, is continuing to drop at the rate of one centimeter a day.

The water level in the lake has fallen by 95 cm. so far from peak it reached at the end of the winter, and stood yesterday at 210.10 m. below sea-level.

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Rabin, Peres agree on truce

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres held a reconciliation meeting yesterday, at which they set up a framework that would enable them to work together to promote the peace process.

No details of the two-hour meeting were revealed, but Labor sources said with satisfaction yesterday that the differences between the two had been ironed out.

It is now hoped in Labor that both its leaders will work together to solve internal problems as well, such as Labor's difficult financial situation and the divisions resulting from the the Histadrut elections.

Rabin implied that there were no ideological differences between himself and Peres, and said that the personal disputes are not really relevant "to the heart of the peace process."

"I see the Washington Declaration as an achievement of significance," he said. "Peres and I are partners to the peace process since the government was established, with Peres serving as foreign minister and myself as prime minister."

"I don't want to go into whether there is or isn't a crisis. Let's remember that this has no connection to the issues at hand. Each of us acted in his field to bring about the Washington Declaration, and if there are problems here and there, they have no bearing on our joint desire to promote the peace process," Rabin said.

Attorney Giora Einy, who has served as adviser and confidante to both Peres and Rabin had arranged the meeting.

Einy met with Rabin and Peres separately to set up the meeting, and was in Rabin's office yesterday with the agenda they had prepared, when Peres arrived.

Rabin and Peres decided at the meeting that Rabin would continue



Foreign Minister Shimon Peres leaves his meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday. (Brian Hendler)

to be in charge of the bilateral negotiations with Jordan, Syria and the PLO, while Peres would be responsible for the multilateral talks and the foreign ministers' forum.

Labor sources said, however, that Peres's desire to be more than merely a bystander in the political process may lead to more clashes between the two.

Shahal: 10 Palestinian women prisoners to be freed

RAINE MARCUS

NINE or 10 female Palestinian security prisoners serving sentences in an Israeli prison will probably be released soon, Police Minister Moshe Shahal said yesterday, following a meeting in Tel Aviv with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's senior adviser and negotiator, Nabih Shaath.

"But these prisoners - scheduled for release - do not have blood on their hands and are approaching the end of their sentences, ranging from three to five years," Shahal said. There are 36 female security prisoners in Hasharon Prison.

The release of Palestinian prisoners was the main topic of discussion between Shahal and Shaath, who was visiting Tel Aviv for the first time. Shaath was accompanied by the head of the Palestinian Authority's secret services, Mahmud Dahlan, and Hisham Rajwan, a former prisoner in an Israeli jail.

Shahal and Shaath discussed conditions and rights of security prisoners, visiting rights of families and Palestinian officials, and the release of certain prisoners, including those suffering from serious illnesses.

"The focal point of our discussions was the release of Palestinian prisoners who were not convicted of murder offenses, and Minister Shahal has promised to look into the issue," Shaath told reporters after the two-hour meeting.

Shahal said the government has not changed its stand on the matter and would not release prisoners whose "hands were stained with blood." But the government will in all probability comply with other requests regarding prisoners, he said. Some 4,500 of the 5,000 prisoners Israel pledged to released have been freed so far.

Conditions regarding the release of additional prisoners will be discussed between Shaath and territories coordinator Maj.-Gen. Danny Rothchild, and requests will be presented to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin for approval.

Regarding Arafat's declaration yesterday that "Jerusalem is Palestine," Shaath said he hopes the city "will be open and will become the capital city for Palestinians, who will be free to visit and worship there."

Israelis now allowed to stop in Jericho

HERB KEINON

AS of today, for the first time in more than two months, Israelis traveling on Route 90 through Jericho will be able to stop at restaurants along the way, and visit Tel Jericho and the Shalom al Yisrael synagogue.

Although Israelis have been permitted to drive through Jericho since autonomy was implemented in mid-May, the IDF forbade them from stopping since May 24, when Palestinian policemen arrested Israelis in three separate incidents.

At the time, the ban was implemented to allow the Palestinian police force to become better organized and get better acquainted with the powers granted it under the Cairo agreement.

Soldiers, however, will still be barred from stopping in the city, the IDF told the Jordan Valley Regional Council yesterday.

David Elhayani, director of the Jordan Valley Settlements Council, said that lifting the ban is good for the Palestinians. "It doesn't matter to us either way," Elhayani said, "but it's good for the Palestinians. I think this is part of the IDF's carrot and stick approach. The message to the Jericho city fathers is: 'You have been okay, so we will do something good for your economy.'"

Prior to the intifada, the restaurants and shops along the route in Jericho were a favorite stopping place for Israelis and tourists driving to and from Jerusalem through the Jordan Valley.

In a related matter, Elhayani said that work has not yet begun on the proposed Jericho bypass road, although a stretch of road leading from Na'ama to the security road bordering the fence with Jordan is being built.

Man found beaten to death in Tel Aviv

RAINE MARCUS

POLICE are investigating the murder of a man who was bludgeoned to death, and was found late last night in an abandoned building in Tel Aviv's Neveh Tzedek neighborhood.

The unidentified man, in his early 20s, was found with his skull crushed in the ramshackle building.

Neighbors said that recently

two men, apparently drug addicts, had been living in the building. The murder weapon was found at the scene. Police said they believed it was a criminal attack, though they had not ruled out a nationalistic motive.

The area is frequented by drug users and dealers but residents said that Civil Guard volunteers had stepped up patrols in the area.

Economic talks held in Jerusalem

JOSE ROSENFELD

CONTROVERSY erupted yesterday over the government's decision to hold economic talks with the Palestinians in Jerusalem.

American Jewish organizations and members of the US Congress expressed concern over the apparent violation of the government's policy forbidding official Palestinian activities from taking place in Jerusalem, the Jerusalem Post learned yesterday.

The Treasury, which announced on Sunday that the meeting would take place, waited until yesterday to report its location, the Notre Dame Hotel in Jerusalem. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the hotel is located in the no-man's land that divided the eastern and western parts of the city prior to 1967.

Treasury Budget Director David Brodet explained that the area is not part of eastern Jerusalem. However, when pressed over the fact that it is still Jerusalem, Brodet responded that there are no limitations on meetings with Israeli officials.

"They [the Palestinians] are not allowed to run their affairs or their organizations from Jerusalem, but we can meet with them anywhere; there is no problem," he said.

Brodet, who headed the Israeli delegation to

the joint economic talks with the Palestinians, said that the meeting inaugurated the normalization of economic relations between the two sides and that such meetings will follow the process of implementing the agreement and its functioning throughout the next five years.

Palestinian Authority trade department director-general Samir Huleila, who heads the joint trade working group with Brodet, agreed, but expressed concern over the difficulties the military authorities are putting up in the way of implementing the agreement.

Huleila does not foresee problems with the Treasury. However, he said, "the Defense Ministry has the last word on the agreement and that is a source of worry on our side."

According to Huleila, since May the military authorities have complicated the process for businessmen and merchandise to gain access into Israel, increasing the time required from several hours to 20 days. Businessmen need to be over 25 and married to receive a permit, even though, unlike Palestinian workers coming into Israel, they are well-known and respected members of the community, he said.

"We cannot accept an economic agreement which the security forces will turn into an non-implementable agreement," he said.

Four working groups of the Joint Economic Committee dealing with trade, labor, taxes, and agriculture met yesterday and set up their individual agendas. Both sides characterized the deliberations as dealing with the day-to-day running of joint economic affairs. "We are not negotiating again," explained Huleila.

Although last week, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat promised Ahmed Qreia, the Palestinian Authority's head of economics and planning, to transfer immediately NIS 7 million of customs and taxes collected by Israel on behalf of the Palestinians, the money was only transferred yesterday.

State Revenue Director Yoram Gabbai said he is optimistic about Palestinian efforts to set up their tax system. He said the Palestinians are already establishing the collection of Value Added Tax in Gaza and purchase taxes in Jericho. Gabbai added that in four to five months, the tax collection system will be up and running, although he expects the Palestinians will initially collect about half of what the civil administration was collecting.

Haifa chief rabbi calls for Jewish rights on Temple Mount

HERB KEINON

THE Supreme Rabbinical Council will discuss the status of Jerusalem at its next meeting Monday in light of the Washington Declaration that said "Israel respects the present special role of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Moslem holy shrines in Jerusalem."

At least one member of the Supreme Rabbinical Council, Rabbi She'ar-Yashuv Cohen, chief rabbi of Haifa, said he hopes the council comes out with a declaration that "the entire Temple Mount area is a holy site for Jews, and that while all religions should have freedom of worship, any committee set up to supervise the Temple Mount should also include Jewish religious leaders."

According to Cohen, now is a good time to "reassert Jewish claims to the Temple Mount." Jews are currently forbidden to pray on the Temple Mount, either in a minyan or alone, and any Jew seen mouthing a prayer there is escorted away by police.

Cohen, who was taken to Jordan as a prisoner after the Old City fell to the Arab Legion in 1948, stressed that he is not against the peace process with Jordan, but rather welcomes it and

thinks it is a great thing. He said he hopes Moslems will understand, as they have in times in the distant past, that the Temple Mount is holy to Jews, and that Jewish rights there should be respected.

Asked how he envisions a Moslem and Jewish accommodation on the Temple Mount, Cohen said, "I don't think we have yet reached the point of detailed discussions."

The Supreme Rabbinical Council, headed by Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau, is a 14-man body that sets policy for the Chief Rabbinate. Lau said last week that although he too welcomes the agreements with Jordan, "sovereignty over all the city [Jerusalem] must remain with us."

Evelyn Gordon adds:

The ministerial committee on legislation decided yesterday to oppose a bill requiring a majority of 80 MKs to change Jerusalem's borders.

MK Avraham Hershchson (Likud), who sponsored the bill, said it was ridiculous to have a situation where parts of Jerusalem could be given away by a chance 2-1 majority.

Rabin: Gaps with Syria still large

Jerusalem Post Staff

SYRIA has made progress on the "components of peace," Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said yesterday, but he insisted the "gaps remain large" and said it "will take time until they are resolved."

Speaking on Israel Radio, Rabin also said, "Negotiations between the Syrians and us are held mainly through the US... During this process, there are signs that the Syrians agree somewhat to move head on the components of peace, but the timetable and the essence of peace are far from satisfying us."

Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir sounded more upbeat. Speaking at a Jerusalem dinner for Israeli ambassadors in Europe, he said, "We have in our hands indications that Syria is ready to proceed in negotiations, but it is unclear how far and what way."

US: State terrorism list to stay as is

HILLEL KUTTILER

WASHINGTON

SYRIA and five other nations will remain on the State Department's list of countries sponsoring terrorism, the administration's top counterterrorism official told a Congressional panel yesterday.

At a special House of Representatives hearing on the recent bombings of Jewish and Israeli targets in Buenos Aires, Panama and London, the official, Barbara Bodine, said "there is no intention at all of removing any of them" from the list.

Aside from Syria, those on the list are Iran, Iraq, Sudan, Cuba and North Korea.

"There are efforts by some of them to get themselves removed [from the list], but we've made it very clear to them there are a number of steps that need to be taken," she said.

Bodine added that "the circumstantial evidence is there" to link Iran to the July 18 Buenos Aires bombing of the Jewish community headquarters. Secretary of State Warren Christopher had made a similar charge on Capitol Hill last Thursday.

Argentina's ambassador to the US, Raul Enrique Granillo Ocampo, told the House subcommittee that his country has been questioning Iranian diplomats in Buenos Aires about the bombing.

"We don't have definite proof of [their] involvement, but we have a lot of clues that convinced us to arrive at this conclusion," he said.

Ocampo told The Jerusalem Post later that the government has questioned everyone in the Iranian Embassy, from Ambassador Suleiman Pour on down, but said that "we have not gotten anything" from them.

"We are not saying the Iranian ambassador was involved; we're saying that philosophically, the Hizballah and Iran are related, and we are not going to rule out the possibility they are involved," he said.

Bodine's appointed successor as the State Department's coordinator for counterterrorism, Phillip C. Wilcox, will visit Argentina and four of its neighbors later this month to discuss the Buenos Aires attack, it was learned here.

Wilcox, who will take office on August 17, recently served as US consul-general in Jerusalem. Meanwhile, the local representatives of several major Jewish organizations met here yesterday with Federal Bureau of Investigation director Louis Freeh to receive an update on the bureau's involvement in the Buenos Aires investigation.

Freeh suggested the groups remain on alert for potential attacks. He added that the bureau takes "very seriously the issue of security for Jewish institutions," and a threat last week warning of an attack "within 48 to 72 hours" against Israeli targets here, according to American Jewish Committee representative Jason Isaacson, who was at the meeting.

Jewish groups now targets, Page 4



Saba Arafat, wife of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat (left), and Intisar Wazir (Umm Jihad), minister of special affairs in the Palestinian Authority and widow of Arafat deputy Abu Jihad, join Gaza residents yesterday at the beginning of a two-week campaign to clean up the town's beachfront. (AP)

United Nations, Japan launch Gaza clean-up

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and representatives of Japan and the United Nations yesterday signed accords to start housing and clean-up projects in the Gaza Strip.

Japan is financing a \$10 million housing project and a \$5 million Gaza clean-up operation through the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). They are among the first projects launched in Gaza since Arafat's arrival last month.

"These projects are a very important signal of the beginning of reconstruction... This is a good start," Arafat told reporters, following the signing ceremony at his Gaza headquarters.

"We are in need of continuous help from UN General Secretary (Boutros) Boutros-Ghali and from the UN," he said.

Norwegian Foreign Minister Terje Larsen, the UN special coordinator in the territories, said of

the \$15 million total, \$4 million would be transferred to the Palestinian Authority immediately.

The Gaza clean-up operations, carried out by private Palestinian subcontractors, would employ about 15,000 people. PLO officials said the project would include the removal of garbage and rehabilitation of roads, sidewalks, and parks.

PLO officials said the housing project would provide modern apartments for about 280 families of the Palestinian police force. They said Palestinians suffered a housing crisis and needed about 200,000 housing units by the year 2000.

Japanese Ambassador to Israel Katsuhisa Uchida said the two projects "are an important part of Japan's pledge of \$200 million for the Palestinians for the first two years which was committed in October in Washington." (Reuter)

House panel links US aid to PLO compliance with accords

Jerusalem Post Staff

WASHINGTON - A House of Representatives panel has voted to adopt the Senate's Specter-Shelby amendment, which requires the PLO to stop its violations of the Oslo and Cairo accords before receiving the proposed \$500 million in US aid.

The vote to keep the amendment (which was passed 84-9 by the Senate on July 22) in the 1995 foreign operations appropriations bill was 7-4.

The Specter-Shelby amendment requires that the PLO eliminate the clauses in the Palestine Covenant which call for the destruction of Israel or violence against it - changes Yasser Arafat undertook to enact as part of his agreement with Israel. According to existing legislation, the president can certify that the PLO is in compliance if Arafat submits the changes to the Palestine National Council, even if the changes are not approved.

The amendment also requires the president to certify that the PLO is complying with the Israeli-PLO accords before receiving the proposed US aid. It removes the "national interest" clause that permits the president to aid the PLO solely on the basis that it is in the national interest to do so.

The amendment's passage by the House panel is seen as a major step in the process of linking US aid to PLO compliance with accords. The amendment was sponsored by Sens. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania and Richard Shelby of Alabama, the co-chairmen of the bipartisan Peace Accord Monitoring Group, recently established in the Senate at the initiative of the Zionist Organization of America. Nineteen senators are members of the group, and 32 congressmen belong to a corresponding group in the House.

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With deep sorrow we announce the passing in old age of **MENASHE (MUNI) ZIVOTOFKY** on August 1, 1994 (24 Av, 5754) Funeral: Today, Tuesday, August 2, 1994 at the Eretz Hachaim cemetery near Beit Shemesh. A bus will leave from the home of the deceased at 3 p.m. Shiva: At the home of the deceased, 3 Eizel St., entrance B, French Hill, Jerusalem. Tel. 02-818493 The children, grandchildren, and great-granddaughter

US asks Saudis to give Israel overflight rights

HAIM SHAPIRO

THE US has approached the Saudi Arabia to ask that Israel be granted air passage rights over the country, Transport Ministry spokesman Eli Danon said yesterday.

Danon noted that Israel and Jordan have already agreed to reciprocal overflight rights. The Jordanians have already requested an air corridor, but without the agreement of Saudi Arabia and Oman, Israel cannot utilize the right to fly over Jordan.

He said that in view of this, Israel had requested the Americans to ask the Saudis to allow Israeli overflights. There is every indication, Danon said, that the Saudis will respond positively. He also said there are indications that once the Saudis agree, the Gulf states will also give their approval.

However, he warned, because such agreement involves considerable political implications, it may take considerable time in coming. In the meantime, he added, Israel has no intention of denying the Jordanians their overflight rights.

The Jordanians have asked for an air corridor over the center of the country, but it is unlikely they will be allowed to fly over the Tel Aviv area. Rather, Danon said, the air corridor will probably be over the North, although the exact route has yet to be determined.

High Court petition calls for suspension, investigation of Sheves

EVELYN GORDON

PRIME Minister's Office Director-General Shimon Sheves should be removed from his post and investigated for his interference in the Deri affair, a petition to the High Court of Justice demanded yesterday.

The petition was filed by Gil Samsonov, a member of the Likud's central committee and head of the party's governmental oversight committee. It is based on a recent state comptroller's report which found that Sheves had "exceeded the bounds of the permissible" by asking then police inspector-general Ya'acov Ternat to change the composition of the team investigating former interior minister Aryeh Deri on corruption charges.

Following the report, Samsonov had asked Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to investigate whether Sheves had broken the law against interfering with a judicial proceeding, but on Sunday, Ben-Yair decided not to do so, stating Sheves did not have the necessary criminal intent.

In the petition, attorney Sami Yisrael pointed out that Sheves's action certainly seemed to constitute interference, since even if a new team had ultimately decided that charges should be pressed, it would certainly have taken much longer, as the new investigators would have had to learn the voluminous material from scratch.

There is also no lack of evidence, the petition said, since four people, including Sheves, testified to the state comptroller about his

request. And the crime is made particularly grave by Sheves's high position, Yisrael added, since Sheves is in effect "the prime minister's agent."

The petition argued that it is not the attorney-general's place to decide in advance that Sheves lacked the necessary criminal intent. Only after the police have investigated can this determination be made, it said.

But in any case, the petition continued, Sheves should not be allowed to remain in office, according to the precedent set in the case of former General Security Service chief Yossi Givossar. The High Court ruled that Givossar could not become director-general of the Housing Ministry, because of his involvement in two unsavory affairs, even though he was never tried for either. These included the shooting of two terrorists captured in the hijacking of Egged bus No. 300 in 1984, and a false confession of espionage obtained by illegal means from Circassian IDF officer Izat Nafsu.

"[Someone] who gave false testimony and disrupted judicial proceedings... how can such a person run a government ministry?" the court wrote in its ruling on this case.

Ben-Yair is wrong to say the standards for firing someone are more stringent than those for not appointing him, Yisrael argued. If anything, he said, the opposite should be true: the fact Sheves abused his high position makes his actions all the more grave.

Medical exam results canceled after test questions stolen

JUDY SEGEL

THE results of medical licensing and internship qualifying exams taken two weeks ago by 1,200 doctors have been nullified, after police arrested someone suspected of stealing the exam questions and trying to sell them. Applicants will have to take the tests again.

Prof. Joseph Schenker, chairman of the examination board for medical licensing and internship, said yesterday applicants must register by September 2 for the new exams, which are to be held sometime in October. Doctors are now composing the questions to the new exams.

The suspect has been in the police lockup since his arrest on July 16. Schenker said that any doctor found guilty of stealing the exam and trying to sell it would be barred from life from being a physician and be liable to other punishments as well. He said this was the first time such cheating among doctors had been discovered here.

The four-hour, two-part exams were taken at the Tel Aviv Exhibition Grounds by Israelis and new immigrants who studied medicine abroad. The day before the exam, the Israel Medical Association received an anonymous letter claiming some applicants had illegally obtained a copy of the questions.

A stolen copy was indeed found in the possession of one of the applicants during the first half of the test; so as not to harm all the applicants, the test was not halted and an alternate version of the second half was given to all. But the Health Ministry decided the circumstances were so serious that the grades were nullified completely.

Bolivia tries to prevent Israeli Embassy closure

DAVID MAKOVSKY

ISRAEL is cool to a new proposal by Bolivia to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to the outskirts of Jerusalem in a bid to prevent closure of the Israeli embassy in La Paz, sources in the capital said.

The Foreign Ministry has been planning to close the embassy in La Paz as a cost-cutting measure. "Outside of Jerusalem is still outside of Jerusalem," a source said in response to the Bolivian offer, made last week, to move its embassy to Mevasseret Yerushalayim.

But these remarks seem to hint that Bolivia could still prevent closure of the Israeli embassy if it agrees to move its embassy to Jerusalem itself.

The Foreign Ministry has been looking to close down some of its embassies in Latin America in an attempt to cope with the mushrooming of Israeli diplomatic missions in Eastern Europe, Asia,

and Africa in recent years. There are also plans to close the embassies in Honduras and Paraguay, officials said.

At the same time, the ministry has no plans to close the embassy in El Salvador, since that country maintains its embassy in Jerusalem. Officials want to encourage countries to move their embassies to Jerusalem, and therefore will not close diplomatic missions in those countries that have their embassies in the capital.

The source implied it is unlikely that Bolivia's new proposal will be accepted, but added that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will finalize the Bolivian issue in about two weeks.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Rafi Ganuz said Israel will be closing embassies in Latin America for economic reasons, but insisted that no final decisions have been made.



Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban yesterday visits newcomers at a Holon day camp preparing them for first grade. (Yitzhak Elhanan/Scoop 80)

Committee recommends increasing Jewish studies in secular schools

BATSEVA TSUR

JEWISH studies in state schools should be increased and expanded in an effort to raise humanistic values in general and Jewish values in particular, according to a committee, headed by Haifa University Rector Aliza Shenhar, which spent close to three years studying the subject.

Appointed by former education minister Ze'evulun Hammer, the committee yesterday presented its findings to his successor, Amnon Rubinstein, who immediately endorsed them.

"Judaism is too important to be left only in the hands of the Orthodox," Rubinstein told a Jerusalem press conference. "It belongs to the entire nation and we must stress excellence in humanistic fields in general, and Jewish studies in particular, alongside excellence in science and technology."

The committee pointed out that there has been a declining interest in Jewish studies amongst non-Orthodox students and high school pupils "as a result of social and political changes and shifts in values which reflect on the situation in the schools." It proposed adding study hours to the current curriculum, the preparation of innovative teaching pro-

grams, and the expansion of Jewish studies in non-academic schools.

Shenhar said that of some 35,000 high school pupils who were examined in the past year in Bible studies in state schools, fewer than 1,000 (2.8%) chose to expand their studies beyond the compulsory two units required for the matriculation exams.

The committee recommended an interdisciplinary approach which would combine subjects such as Bible, oral law, Jewish history, Hebrew, Zionism, and literature.

Rubinstein called on the committee of university heads to grant applicants bonuses for Jewish studies, such as those given for English, mathematics, and natural science. He also proposed additional funds for schools that stressed Jewish studies and the establishment of a center for Jewish studies at several of the country's universities.

Rubinstein said he would personally work towards obtaining budgets for such projects and the training of teachers and that some of the conclusions would be implemented in the coming academic year.

Ma'alot-Tarshiha tourism project under way

DAVID RUDGE

WORK has started on a multi-million-dollar tourism project near Ma'alot-Tarshiha in the heart of the western Galilee.

Local council chairman MK Shlomo Buhbut said the scheme, centered around an artificial lake, is slated to become a major attraction for visitors from Israel and abroad. It is apparently the first time in the country's history that a lake is being created specifically for tourism purposes.

The project is being run by the Montfort Lake Tourism and Recreation Center, a new company jointly owned by the Ma'alot-Tarshiha Local Council and the Ma'aleh Yosef Regional Council, in conjunction with the Tourism Ministry, the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund.

Work began several months ago on excavating the 51-dunam site of the lake, which is to be the focus of the 350-dunam park complex, situated in a popular spot between Ma'alot and nearby Moshav Hosen.

It is expected to be completed by October, when the lake will be filled with water. A huge sports complex, with an olympic-size ice rink, heated indoor swimming pool, tennis and squash courts and

including rowing and windsurfing, and there will be a fishing jetty. This will be followed by other recreation facilities including horseback riding," said Buhbut.

"In terms of the economics of peace, and given predictions of a big increase in tourism to the region, this is a major project which we hope will put the Galilee in general and our region in particular on the map," he added.

Several Israeli entrepreneurs, including businessman and developer Mario Laznik, have already expressed their interest in plans to build hotels, a health spa, shopping mall and other recreation and entertainment facilities at the site, he said.

Buhbut said that the entire project, which is being given "approved enterprise" status, is expected to cost in the range of \$100 million.

If successful, the Montfort Park project will provide work for over 1,000 people in the Ma'alot region, and will spur the development of other tourism facilities in the area, including guest houses in Jewish and Arab villages, roadside cafes and restaurants.

"The first stage of the project, the lake itself, will open in the next few months for water sports,

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police hold man who beat 10-year-old

A mentally disturbed Palestinian man has been detained by police in connection with the brutal beating of a 10-year-old on Moshav Aviezer near Beit Shmesh last week.

Police have ruled out nationalistic motives for the incident, which at first was believed to be a terror attack.

The suspect, 26, from the village of Tarkumiyah near Hebron, is to be remanded today in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court.

The 10-year-old was moderately injured and his 18-year-old brother lightly injured when they were attacked in their home last Thursday.

Infiltrator steals weapon from IDF base

An Arab infiltrator sneaked onto an IDF base in downtown Hebron on Saturday and stole a weapon before fleeing. The man penetrated the headquarters base without being detected and took an unsupervised weapon from one of the rooms. While trying to sneak out of the base, however, he was spotted by a soldier, who chased him into an adjoining neighborhood. The infiltrator threw down the weapon as he vanished into an alley. The IDF is investigating the incident. *Idm*

European wheat to be imported

For the first time, the country will be buying wheat from Europe, in addition to what is imported from the US and produced locally, the Agriculture Ministry announced yesterday.

European wheat is cheaper than American wheat, because governments subsidize its export; it costs about \$130 a ton, which is \$35-\$40 less than the world market price.

The ministry began issuing import permits for this wheat yesterday. To encourage the purchase of domestic wheat, however, the ministry is demanding that a ton of domestic wheat be purchased by the millers at full price (\$170 a ton) for every 1.5 tons of foreign wheat imported.

Ministry officials estimated that some 100,000 tons of European wheat would be imported annually, representing 20 percent of the total consumption.

Ben-Gurion traffic hits record high

A record number of passengers passed through Ben-Gurion Airport on Sunday, the Airports Authority announced yesterday. A total of 35,488 passengers used the airport, of whom 18,476 were entering the country and 17,012 were leaving.

Last month, a total of 636,934 passengers utilized the airport, an increase of almost 19 percent over the previous year. During the first seven months of this year, there were 3,205,615 passengers, 19 percent more than during the same period of 1993.

Police seeking missing boy

Police have appealed to the public for help in locating Moshe Tzikel, a 13-year-old Ethiopian immigrant who disappeared from his parents' home in Beersheba on July 17.

The boy is 1.65 meters tall, thin, with short, curly black hair, and black eyes. He was last seen wearing blue jeans and sneakers.

Anyone who thinks he may have seen the boy over the past two weeks should contact his local police station.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the queen of spades, ace of hearts, king of diamonds and seven of clubs.

Police want settlers' tent camp in Jerusalem to be dismantled

BILL HUTMAN

POLICE want the settlers' tent camp near the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem evacuated, arguing that demonstrations which begin there are a burden on manpower.

Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz revealed yesterday that ways of legally and peacefully having the camp dismantled are being investigated.

"I want to emphasize that the camp is legal," Hefetz told a Jerusalem Economics Club luncheon. "We must be tolerant, and not violate anyone's right to protest, but at the same time a limit must be set on how long the

camp is allowed to remain standing."

The camp was set up about a month ago—to protest the arrival of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat—as a staging ground for anti-government demonstrations.

The presence of the camp has strained police manpower in the capital, forcing large numbers of police needed elsewhere to keep the peace there, according to Hefetz.

Hefetz told reporters that police are consulting with legal experts on the issue. He said not action would be taken without speaking with camp leaders.

New cable TV station to open on Friday

LIAT COLLINS

The Metab cable television company's new channel is scheduled to begin operating on Friday. Broadcasts on Channel 9 will continue until 1 a.m. daily.

The channel is intended as a family station, and will include talk shows, sitcoms, dramas, mini-series, entertainment, sports, children shows, and local current affairs programs.

Metab has the franchise to several viewing areas, including Galilee, Holon, Bat Yam, Haifa, Netanya, and Hadera. Viewers will be able to talk back to the station via a "telemessenger" phone number which will give them the opportunity of selecting movies, requesting news coverage of local events, and commenting on the programs, said publicist Hagar Ram. She said that Arabic-language broadcasts are planned on the channel in the near future.

Not all the broadcasts will be new, however. The channel will also have reruns of past Metab programs including *Personally*, *Friday*, with Mikki Heimovitch (today a news presenter for Channel 2); *Torpedo*, with actor-comedian Shmuel Vilosny; *Short and Cinematic*, with Eitan Green; and *Talking Heads*, with different Knesset members.

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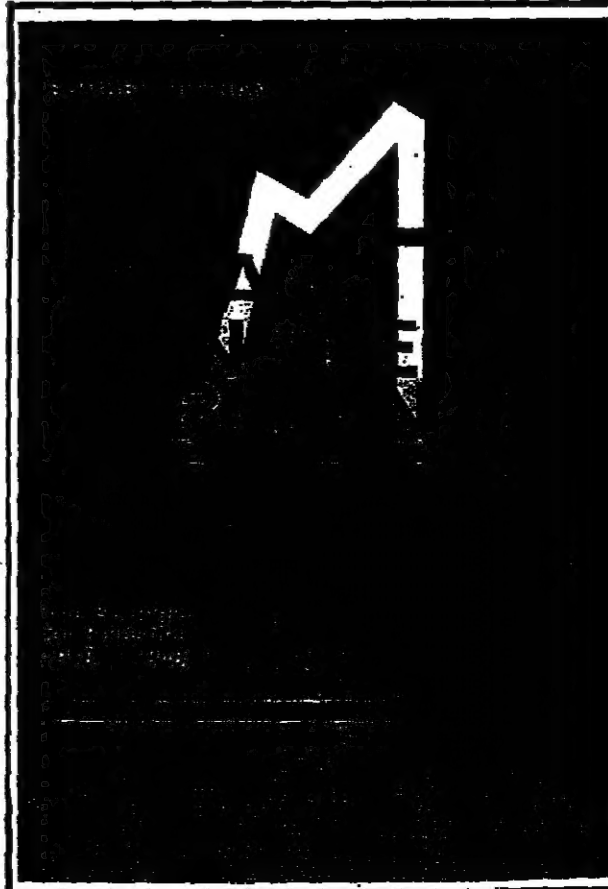
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The National Parks Authority

On the face of Masada

The sound and light presentation "On the Face of Masada" scheduled for the evening of Thursday, August 4, 1994, has been canceled.

Our apologies to the public.



Analysts: Any Jewish group in the world is now a target

A WHITE delivery van parks in front of the building in downtown Buenos Aires housing many of Argentina's Jewish organizations on a Monday morning. A few minutes later, a quarter ton of explosives in the van are detonated, demolishing the building. Ninety-six people are killed, 230 are wounded.

A day later, a man believed to be Lebanese and using a crudely forged US passport boards a small commuter plane in Panama - and shortly after takeoff blows it up with a bomb he is carrying.

Twenty other people die with him - 12 of them Jewish businessmen.

In London a week later, a well-dressed, middle-aged woman described as "Middle Eastern" or "Mediterranean" parks her car next to the Israeli Embassy, tells a policeman she is visiting friends in the building next door and walks off, a department store shopping bag in hand. Minutes later, the car explodes, heavily damaging the embassy and wounding 14 people.

At 12:45 that night, another car bomb goes off outside the North London building housing Jewish community organizations. Five people are wounded.

From four terrorist strikes in eight days, profoundly troubling questions arise:

Are Jews around the world - not only Israelis but all Jews - now targets in a new surge of Middle East terrorism, a campaign able to strike globally with deadly suddenness? Can the Middle East peace process, still fragile despite the breakthroughs of the past year, survive such murderous attacks? Or will terrorism push the region toward war once again?

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, speaking to his colleagues at a special Cabinet meeting last week, responded to those questions with characteristic bluntness: "Jews once again are being killed precisely because they are Jews. The motive this time is to halt the search for peace. We know where the trail leads. Israel will do all within its power to find and punish those responsible for these bombings. Peace must not succumb to terror."

Yet the bombings showed how vulnerable the Jewish communities of the Diaspora are, whether in security-conscious Britain or remote Panama.

In the sober judgment of Israeli and Western intelligence analysts and counterterrorism specialists, any Jewish group virtually anywhere in the world is now a potential target, with Israeli and high-profile Jewish institutions at a significantly higher risk.

"Perhaps the most dangerous time is still ahead as the peace process is actually implemented and as barriers between Middle East states come down," said Bruce Hoffman, co-director of the Center for Terrorism and Conflict Studies at St. Andrew's University in Scotland. "As peace takes hold, terrorists will have even more to lose and more motivation to demonstrate their capacity as spoilers."

The driver of the Renault van in

Buenos Aires had carefully positioned it just outside the front doors of the building housing the social service organizations of Argentina's Jewish community of 250,000.

At 9:53 a.m. July 18, the car bomb was detonated, and the seven-story community center collapsed in a deafening explosion.

The driver of the Renault was blown into many pieces, and what was left of his body was found a full eight days later behind the van's charred steering wheel.

The Argentine investigation has focused on Hizbullah in Lebanon, or an offshoot called Ansarallah, which claimed responsibility for the bombing, and on Iran as their patron. Authorities are trying to determine if Iranian diplomats provided support for their activities.

Sheik Sobhi Tufayli, Hizbullah's former secretary-general and now a leader of its most militant wing, is regarded by investigators and counterterrorism specialists as the likely planner of the attack.

A break in the case came when Judge Juan Jose Galeano traveled secretly to Caracas last weekend to interview Monoucher Motamer, a former Iranian diplomat and now political refugee in Venezuela.

Motamer implicated at least two and as many as five people working at the Iranian Embassy in Buenos Aires, according to sources familiar with the investigation. Galeano said, "The information he gave me is of extreme importance."

The Iranian ambassador, Hadi Soleimani, was interrogated twice last week at the Argentine Foreign Ministry amid suspicions that he and his embassy's cultural attaché were involved. Six people have reportedly been detained for questioning in Buenos Aires.

Iran, for its part, rejected all accusations of involvement, calling them part of "an American-Zionist conspiracy to justify further aggression" in the Middle East.

But Ansarallah, or the Partisans of God, which Western analysts believe Tufayli heads, said in a statement from Lebanon that it committed the Argentine and Panamanian bombings and planned more.

"Suicide squads [have been formed] to confront the Zionist enemy everywhere," the statement said. "The Argentine and Panamanian operations are but a proof of our struggle against Zionism."

Iran, which last week again voiced its opposition to the Arab League's peace process with Israel, provides expertise and financing for many militant groups throughout the Middle East. It created Hizbullah in 1982, it maintains the anti-Iraq Islamic Alliance in Tehran, it aids the fundamentalist regime in Sudan, and it has links to a variety of militant Islamic groups in the Horn of Africa.

The attacks set off alarms because of their boldness and changes in tactics. In the past, neither Hizbullah nor Ansarallah has



North London's Joint Israel Appeal building, which was attacked last week, was one of four Jewish targets bombed in eight days. (AP)

been involved in a systematic series of bombings.

The four attacks also demonstrated deadly expertise. Advance intelligence in Panama, where the flight patterns of Jewish businessmen were noted, and in one of the most protected sections of London is of deep concern to counterterrorism officials. The Panama incident surprised experts - as a site, for the evident knowledge about and precision of the target, and for originality.

Counterterrorism specialists

also believe that those who carried out the attacks had deep roots in the places where they were operating.

"This appears to have been planned for a long time," said Frank Brechley, chairman of London's Research Institute for the Study of Conflict and Terrorism. "It's part of a widely spaced campaign that includes Buenos Aires, Panama, and the attempt to bomb the Israeli Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand, in March. That kind of planning must be

done months ahead.

"I think this is not the end of the process. They may hit targets in other high-profile capitals like Paris and Rome."

Tufayli, the Hizbullah leader suspected in the Buenos Aires bombing, told the Beirut newspaper *L'Orient-Le Jour*: "Even if the whole world signs peace with the Jews, we will continue to fight them." However, he denied any role in the attack.

Israel has encouraged speculation that, just as it did after 11 of

its athletes were killed at the 1972 Munich Olympics, its intelligence agents would secretly, methodically hunt down and kill those responsible for the Buenos Aires bombing.

"Just as we found solutions to terror in the past... so too a solution will be found to Iranian terrorism," a senior general told Israeli military correspondents last week. "Iran and the perpetrators of the attacks have good reason to fear."

But Rabin is under considerable pressure from the Clinton administration not to retaliate directly or immediately, according to officials here and in Washington, for fear this would widen the circle of reprisals, escalating attacks by Lebanese Shi'ite extremists and bringing them to the United States.

There were real fears, based on what FBI officials described as firm intelligence, that Hizbullah or another Iranian-backed group was ready to mount a terrorist campaign against Israeli and Jewish institutions in New York and other American cities.

"Counterterrorism efforts are easy to mobilize when there is a specific threat and an end within sight," experts noted last week.

The current challenge will be an indefinite struggle requiring a focus and a long-term commitment that the international community has never been able to sustain.

"It's an illusion to think we can ever stop terrorism completely," said Hoffman, the Scottish anti-terrorism expert, "but we can certainly make it more difficult to carry out."

The Washington Post Los Angeles Times

London police head defends force

LONDON (Reuters) - London's police chief defended his force yesterday against charges they failed to act on the tip-off ahead of two car bombs against Jewish targets last week.

Metropolitan Police Commissioner Paul Condon also appeared to confirm that police had some information, if not "hard intelligence" of an imminent attack on Israeli targets after a huge bomb exploded at a Jewish cultural center in Argentina last month.

"I don't think the criticism is justified... we were not specifically warned with any hard intelligence about any specific threats," Condon said in an interview with British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) radio.

Condon did not elaborate but said he was sure that the lessons of the bombings last week against the Israeli Embassy and a Jewish cultural center would be learned.

"Longer term we can look back and decide whether lessons could have been learned and I am sure they will be... there will be time for reflection," he said.

Israeli officials have publicly criticized British police and intelligence services for apparently not taking seriously enough warnings that London could be targeted by urban guerrillas opposed to the Middle East peace process.

Brigadier-General Azriel Nevo, Israel's military attaché in London, accused British security authorities of bungling. "It's really a true blunder of the locals here," he said.

Last Tuesday, the Israeli Embassy in west London was devastated by a powerful car bomb apparently left by a member of Middle Eastern extremist groups. The blast badly damaged the embassy and surrounding buildings and injured 14 people.

Just 12 hours later another car bomb exploded outside the north London offices of a Jewish fund-raising organization. Five people were injured in that attack.

Condon, who has stepped up police security around possible Jewish targets and warned of a "specific threat" and an end within sight, experts noted last week.

But, he acknowledged, it was a learning process.

"I think if you look back over 10 years all the authorities involved in combating Middle Eastern terrorism have a reasonable record in London in combating it," he said.

"Clearly there has now been a new twist, a new dimension to the terrorism, and we have to learn the lessons."

Washington takes special precautions

MANGAI BALASEGARAM

WASHINGTON

JEWISH organizations here have taken new security precautions, and the Holocaust Memorial Museum has placed barriers around the building after bombings at Jewish centers in Buenos Aires and London.

"Everyone has a heightened awareness now... You would have to have your hands in your eyes and your fingers in your ears not to think about the situation," said Joan Wadkins, the museum's acting media director.

The Israeli Embassy here and Israeli offices across the United States also have responded to the bombings by tightening security.

Further measures were taken after a specific warning by US authorities, the embassy said in a news release.

"We have also advised Jewish organizations and institutions of the need to work closely with the authorities," the statement said.

A spokesman said the State Department has been working with local law-enforcement officials and the Secret Service to increase protection for Israeli diplomatic facilities.

At the B'nai B'rith building on Rhode Island Ave-

nue, people have not been allowed in unescorted since the bombing in Buenos Aires, said its director of press relations, Robin Schwartz-Kreger.

At the National Museum of American Jewish Military History, security measures have not been so tight since the Persian Gulf War in 1991, said the museum's communications director, Howard Metzger.

Parcels that look suspicious or damaged, or do not have a return address, are refused, he said.

The American Jewish Committee's director of government and international affairs, Jason Isaacson, said he felt there was a need for governmental action.

"I've just come back from Buenos Aires, where I met leaders of the Jewish community, Argentinian officials and grieving friends and family members [of those who were killed in the bombing]."

Jim Colbert, communications director of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, agreed. "Countries have to be more stringent. These terrorists are based in countries that support them and attack in countries that are ineffective at keeping them out," he said.

The Washington Post Los Angeles Times

Lucan may be alive and well in Africa Jewish leaders decry papal honor for Waldheim

LONDON (Reuters) - Lord Lucan, a British aristocrat who vanished 20 years ago after the mysterious death in London of his children's nanny, may be living abroad under an assumed identity, according to a television documentary.

The various sightings reported by the Channel 4 program portray him as a manic depressive and alcoholic, a warehouse worker or an odd-job worker in Australia, Canada or Botswana.

"The original detective who investigated the crime believes that he is alive and living in Africa," a spokesman for the True Stories program, said yesterday.

Makers of the documentary, which will be shown in Britain on Thursday, circulated an updated computer image compiled by police experts of how the earl might look today.

The image was advertised in newspapers around the world with a plea asking for information about "Richard."

Three detective agencies and nine individuals responded with details of purported sightings. A Canadian claimed he saw Lucan crying in a gymnasium in Vancouver and another said he worked at a warehouse in Ontario. He was also said to have been spotted in a

hotel in Botswana.

Lucan has not been seen since November 8, 1974, just hours after the nanny was battered, to death and his estranged wife was assaulted in her home.

At the time of the murder, the couple were involved in a bitter custody fight for their three children. Lady Lucan escaped from her attacker and fled to a nearby pub.

"Murder, murder... please help...he's murdered my nanny," she screamed to the startled drinkers.

A warrant for Lucan's arrest was issued after an inquest named him as the murderer of the nanny, Sandra Rivett. He has never been declared dead and his disappearance without a trace has baffled experts for two decades.

POPE John Paul II has angered Jewish leaders by bestowing a papal knighthood on Kurt Waldheim, the former Austrian president who has been accused of participating in Nazi war crimes during World War II.

Waldheim, 75, was presented with the award by Archbishop Donato Squicciarini, the papal nuncio to Austria, at a discreet ceremony at the Vatican Embassy in Vienna last month. Waldheim reportedly described it as "the greatest gift" he had ever received.

But the Jewish community is dismayed by the honor, which is given to Catholics and non-Catholics "for outstanding services to the Church or society." Jewish leaders said it was insensitive and tasteless to celebrate a man who served as a German officer and witnessed the atrocities of the Holocaust.

An Austrian government report, prepared by an independent panel of historians, found no proof of his having committed war crimes, which Waldheim always has strongly denied.

REBECCA FOWLER

WASHINGTON

But the report did support claims that he had known of atrocities against Jews and had done nothing to stop them.

B'nai B'rith International said the decision has alarmed many of its members. "For Kurt Waldheim to be honored in this manner does dishonor to the previous recipients," said Kent Schiner, the organization's president.

"The Oskar Schindlers of this world who risked their lives to save others from death deserve awards, not towards like Waldheim, who knew of the atrocities and did nothing to stop them," he said.

David Harris, executive director of the American Jewish Committee, which promotes interreligious relations, said no award could erase Waldheim's past. "Regardless of attempts to confer a sense of respectability on

him, the facts of his having lied about his wartime past are known and proved beyond a shadow of a doubt," he said.

Waldheim's critics said they believe the pope's decision also will taint the fragile relations between Israel and the Vatican.

"At a time when Catholics and Jews are trying to begin a new chapter and forge better relations, we are dismayed that the pope could disregard the feelings of countless Holocaust survivors and the Jewish community," Schiner said.

During Waldheim's term as president, John Paul II was the only Western leader to meet him officially as head of state, in 1987. That same year, Waldheim was barred from visiting the US as a private citizen because of his war record.

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops, based in Washington, would not comment on the pope's decision to honor Waldheim with the knighthood of the Ordine Piano, founded in 1847 by Pope Pius IX. The Washington Post

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Return of Rwandan refugees could spread disease

KIGALI (Reuters) — A rapid return home of huge numbers of Rwandan refugees from cholera-ravaged camps in Zaire could spawn a health disaster in their own country, doctors said yesterday.

Thousands of refugees, who fled Rwanda to escape massacres and civil war that killed an estimated 500,000 people, are abandoning teeming camps around the eastern Zaire town of Goma and many are heading for the capital Kigali.

"If you now bring everyone down to Kigali you create a little Goma in Rwanda," said International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Dr. Jean-Emmanuel Lalive.

On Sunday, the UN World Food Program (WFP) loaded up 700 refugees they found along the road on trucks returning from delivering food to Goma and brought them to Kigali.

Some 16 of them were ill, suspected to be suffering from cholera. On Monday Lalive said most had dysentery or pneumonia but two probably had cholera.

They were refused admission to a hospital run by the medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF-Doctors Without Borders) because they could not be isolated and were then kept in a sealed-off house at the ICRC's offices.

The WFP has been criticized for transporting refugees to Kigali.

One medical aid worker said the WFP had picked up the refugees because the agency did not want bad publicity if reporters saw people collapsing and dying along the roads.

"We are not in a position to let them all live. You have to be realistic and let some of them die so that the rest remain healthy," the aid worker said.

Lalive said it was inevitable that cholera carriers had already reached Kigali, whose population is probably between 50,000 and 80,000 compared with the figure of 350,000 before the civil war.



Rwandan refugees carry their belongings on their way to Rubengeri refugee camp yesterday shortly after returning to the country from Zaire. (Reuters)

US soldiers, who deployed at Kigali on Sunday, were busy cleaning up the war-damaged airport as a mercy mission for Rwanda that will combine at least 1,250 American, British, Canadian and Australian troops in the next weeks got under way.

Electricity supplies in the bombed-out city have collapsed, but ICRC engineers backed by Rwandan staff returning home have got the water system functioning at about a third of the pre-war capacity.

"The way to fight cholera is with clean water," Lalive said. In a flurry of international good will that comes after months of standing by while a bloodbath took place, aid groups and soldiers from Canada, Britain and Australia are deploying field hospitals to care for homecoming refugees.

But it could be days and weeks before they are operating and then diseases such as cholera and dysentery could have spread, not only into Kigali but deep into the hilly villages where civil-

ians are beyond reach.

The deployment of Western soldiers will take days. US Air Force Lt.-Col. Ron Peck told reporters that 108 American soldiers had arrived by yesterday morning and the contingent could number 200 by the end of the week.

Military sources said the first 60 British troops out of a contingent that will number about 600 were set to arrive today but that deployment would take place over 10 days.

Hoodlums riot in Nigeria

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — Hundreds of hoodlums looted shops and chased police with machetes yesterday, the start of the fifth week of strikes aimed at toppling the military government.

The riots and raids on shops in Lagos were part of escalating chaos in this nation of 90 million people, where an oil strike has blossomed into a protest against the authoritarian regime of Gen. Sani Abacha.

Police initially fled the thugs rampaging through the main business district, where most offices and shops were closed because of transportation and fuel problems caused by the oil strike.

Report: Newly released document clears Churchill on Pearl Harbor

LONDON (AP) — A newly released wartime document clears Winston Churchill of knowing that Japan was about to attack Pearl Harbor but not warning the US, a news report said yesterday.

The *Daily Telegraph* said the document, an internal history of Britain's Naval Intelligence Division, was written in 1945.

It was released from its shroud of World War II secrecy last week under Prime Minister John Major's policy of lessening British official confidentiality and was made available at the Public Record Office at Kew in west London for scrutiny by historians.

Since the war, some historians have sought to show that Churchill knew of an imminent Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor but refused

to warn President Franklin D. Roosevelt. They say the British leader was so desperate to pitch the then neutral US into the war that he was prepared to let the raid go ahead.

Japan's carrier-borne aircraft attacked the US Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor in the early hours of December 7, 1941. The United States entered the war the following day.

In a book in 1993, *Betrayal at Pearl Harbor*, authors James R. Bricker and Eric Nave claimed that Britain had cracked vital Japanese codes and was able to intercept naval signals which alerted them to an imminent attack on Pearl Harbor.

But *The Daily Telegraph* quoted Anthony Best, a lecturer

in international history at the London School of Economics and Political Science, as saying the newly released document clearly sets out to show Britain had no advanced knowledge of the attack.

Best told the paper in an interview: "It [the document] is an internal history for internal consumption only, so we can assume that there is no intention to conceal the truth."

He said the document states categorically: "We had not penetrated the Japanese plan to attack Pearl Harbor."

Best added: "If British Naval Intelligence, whose job it was to track the Japanese Navy, did not know about the attack, it was impossible for Churchill to have had any foreknowledge of it."

Haiti de facto gov't declares state of siege

ANDREW DOWNIE
PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti

HAITI'S de facto government declared a state of siege early yesterday morning just hours after the United Nations voted to approve a US resolution allowing America to invade.

In a decree read over state-run television and radio, provisional President Emile Jonassaint called the UN vote "arbitrary, iniquitous and in violation of international rights."

He gave no details of what the state of siege entailed but reiterated Haiti was ready to fight against any foreign intervention.

The announcement came just hours after the UN Security Council voted 12-0 to approve a resolution allowing the US to invade Haiti, should it choose, to remove the military leaders who took power in a bloody September 1991 coup.

President Clinton has refused to rule out military action to oust the coup leaders but US officials have repeatedly said an invasion is not "imminent."

American forces are stationed just north of Haiti.

Many have argued for delaying any intervention to give harsh sanctions imposed by the US and the UN time to work.

Radio stations said under the declaration all civil power is transferred to the military. Meetings can be dispersed, media outlets can be closed, searches can be carried out without warrants and a

curfew can be imposed. The military government did not say which of the moves it might take.

It was the second time in four years that Haiti has been under a state of siege. The last time was under military leader Lieutenant General Prosper Avril in January 1990.

Earlier in the morning Jonassaint blasted the international community, accusing it of picking on the small Caribbean nation and looking to start a war.

"The whole world has declared war on Haiti," the military-

backed leader said in a dramatic speech broadcast on state television.

Asking all Haitians to unite to face the threat of invasion, Jonassaint said: "Facing the intolerable, I ask you to put all political passions aside, to assume proudly and courageously our duty as Haitians."

The UN vote opens the way for the US to intervene to oust the coup leaders but also provides for the presence of 6,000 UN troops in the country once a "safe and stable environment" has been secured.

US officials said the vote sent a clear warning to Haiti's army leaders that they must resign soon, or else.

Israel won't send troops to Haiti

ISRAEL rejected a US request to send troops to Haiti to join possible UN-backed action against its military rulers. Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin said yesterday.

Beilin told Army Radio that Israel was prepared to send Haiti humanitarian aid, if and when that were needed, but declined a US request to send troops.

"I don't think as long as there is not peace in the Middle East we can send military aid," Beilin said.

Beilin said Washington asked Israel if it would join an international peacekeeping force for Haiti and offered three options: military, humanitarian or logistical aid.

"We responded to an appeal by the US so that if and when a peacekeeping force is created for Haiti and democracy is restored, we will agree to participate in humanitarian aid to Haiti, with medical, not military, staff," he said. (AP)

UN reports new round of Bosnian ethnic cleansing

SARAJEVO (AP) — Bosnian Serbs have purged more Muslims from the northeast, during many into believing they could flee Bosnia, then seizing their money and belongings and sending men to labor camps, a UN official said yesterday.

Thirty-seven Muslims, most of them women and children, arrived Sunday in the northern city of Tuzla after being expelled from Serb-held Bijeljina, said Peter Kessler, a spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

In all, 225 people have been forced out of Bijeljina in the past two weeks, he said.

Many had applied for permission to go abroad, in some cases paying a large deposit for bus transportation. The local Serb commander, Maj. Vojkan Djurkovic, visited some families to tell them everything was arranged and they should assemble with belongings, Kessler said.

But at the assembly site, money and belongings were seized, and the Muslims were forced to cross empty-handed into government-held territory. Some male relatives were taken to a forced labor camp near the Serb town of Lopare, between Bijeljina and Tuzla, Kessler said.

He said he had no details on the camp. But Muslims pressed into forced labor elsewhere have had to dig trenches or serve as human shields during combat, Kessler said.

"We fear the worst for these people," he said.

Kessler also reported that 278 Muslims had arrived in the central town of Travnik in the past five days after leaving homes in Serb-held northwest Bosnia, either voluntarily or under pressure.

During the 27-month-old Bosnian war, tens of thousands of people, most of them Muslims, have been forced from their homes by Serb "ethnic cleansing."

Rape, murder and arbitrary detentions are a frequent component of the practice.

All three ethnic groups are guilty, but the Serbs are considered to have committed more abuses than Muslims or Croats. Meanwhile, Russia's foreign minister warned Bosnian Serbs yesterday that failure to accept an international peace plan could lead to escalated fighting and even NATO air strikes.

But Bosnian Serbs remained defiant. Their leader, Radovan Karadzic, called for more talks with the five countries who drafted the "take-it-or-leave-it" plan to end the war.

Rejection of the plan would mean "an escalation of war, huge confrontation and the possibility of air strikes," said Russia's Andrei Kozyrev.

"We will not take part in such a war. We take part only in (making) peace," he said, suggesting that Russia, a traditional ally of Serbia, would not come to the rescue of Bosnian Serb rebels.

Poll: Berlusconi support down

ROME (Reuters) — Support for beleaguered Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi has dropped but neo-fascist leader Gianfranco Fini's popularity has skyrocketed, an opinion poll released yesterday said.

The survey by the SWG polling institute for *Famiglia Cristiana* weekly magazine said only 21.4 percent would vote for the media magnate turned politician if they could directly elect Italy's prime minister.

When asked the same question last February, just over a third had said they would choose Berlusconi. The poll said 20.3 percent would now vote for Fini, up from 8.7 percent six months ago.

Italy's prime minister, usually the leader of the majority party, is appointed by the president.

Berlusconi, head of Italy's largest private media group, swept to power at the head of a right-wing coalition in March.

After a confident start, he has recently come under fire over a plan to limit the powers of arrest of corruption-busting magistrates. His younger brother, Paolo Berlusconi, is currently under house arrest over alleged payment of bribes.

The prime minister will address parliament today to discuss the row with magistrates and expand on proposals to distance himself from his business interests.

The poll said support for Umberto Bossi, leader of the federalist Northern League which is another key coalition partner, was unchanged from February at 5.1%.

Brawling wife of Dylan Thomas dead at 81

LONDON (AP) — Caitlin Thomas, a boozing, brawling partner in marriage to the Welsh poet Dylan Thomas, has died at age 81, her family said yesterday.

She once described their lives together as "raw, red bleeding meat," a torment of mutual infidelity climaxed by her violent tantrum at the bedside of the dying poet.

Caitlin Thomas died Sunday in Catania, Italy, said her daughter, Aeronwy Thomas-Ellis. The cause of death was not announced.

"I was surprised when I heard she wanted to be buried with my father. I felt that she had been in Italy so long that she would want to stay there," Mrs. Thomas-Ellis said.

The former Caitlin MacNamara, the free-spirited daughter of a bohemian family from County Clare, married Thomas in 1937. They had three children — Llewellyn, Aeronwy and Colin.

"Ours was not a love story proper. It was more of a drink story. Predominantly a drink story because without the first-aid of drink it could never have got on to its rocking feet," she wrote in a memoir published in 1982.

"In those long-ago, wrongly romanticized, deliber-

ately mad (they were deliberately mad), absolutely unpardonable days, our primary aim was to get ourselves noticed at any cost: to show off like crazies to gain attention. So we used shock tactics. We knew only too well that is much easier and quicker to get oneself noticed in a bad light."

"It was essential to give people a legend. And a legend to be efficacious has perforce to be monstrous, with a fatal ending..."

Thomas was notorious for extraordinarily bad behavior, from never repaying debts to fouling walls and carpets of friends' homes.

"Even great poetry cannot excuse such rude, drunken behavior," Charlie Chaplin said after Thomas' performance at a party given by the comedian.

Thomas died in New York in 1953, collapsing after a night of typically heavy drinking in Greenwich Village. He lingered long enough, however, for Caitlin to burst into his hospital room, where the comatose Thomas was attended by his current mistress.

"Is the bloody man dead yet?" Caitlin reportedly said on entering. In a rage, she bit an attendant and fighting with bystanders until she was finally subdued.

London crime drops 5%, violence up

LONDON (Reuters) — Reported crimes in London have declined for the first time in six years but violent attacks, including sexual offenses, were still increasing, police said on yesterday.

In the 12 months up to March this year, the number of crimes fell 5 percent, a Metropolitan (London) Police report showed.

"In broad terms crime is down, particularly burglaries, armed robberies and motor vehicle crimes," Police Commissioner Paul Condon told British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) radio. "Crimes of violence are up so it's been a year of mixed news."

House burglaries dropped 15 percent but violence against the person rose 8 percent and sex crimes 14 percent.

Condon called for tougher sentences to keep guns out of the hands of criminals following an increase in the number of armed assaults on police officers.

He also urged parliament to review regulations for gun dealers.

The report showed that police were attacked with firearms 41 times in the period under review compared with just six times in the previous 12 months.

"We are not a gun culture like the [United] States. We have still the possibility to keep on top of it, and the answer is not to arm the police but to stay on top of the acquisition of guns," Condon told a news conference.

L'Oreal cosmetics boycott urged

NEW YORK — Two congressmen and two Jewish groups have called for a boycott of L'Oreal cosmetics because of the French company's compliance with the Arab boycott of Israel.

L'Oreal is under investigation by the Commerce Department for alleged cooperation with the boycott.

Rep. Charles E. Schumer (D-NY), Rep. Jerrold L. Nadler (D-NY) and representatives from the Simon Wiesenthal Center and the Council of Jewish Women announced the boycott Friday during a protest outside the Fifth Avenue building in which L'Oreal's American subsidiary has its offices. *The Washington Post*

UK newspaper price war escalates

LONDON (Reuters) — A vicious newspaper price war boiled up in Britain on Sunday when *The Independent* slashed its circulation battle, slashed its cover price.

The publishers of *The Independent* announced a temporary 20 pence (31 cents) cut to 30 pence (46 cents) beginning yesterday in an attempt to keep pace with cost-cutting rivals.

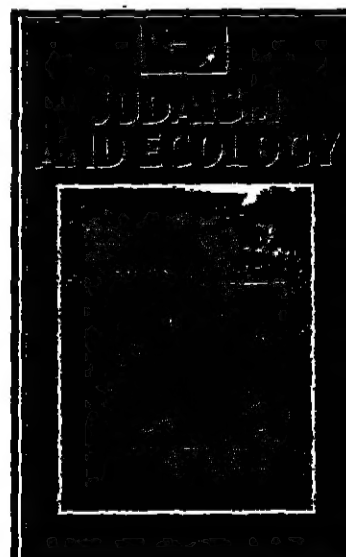
The paper is being squeezed out of the "quality" market in a battle for supremacy between tycoons Rupert Murdoch, who owns the upmarket *Times*, and Conrad Black, proprietor of the conservative *Daily Telegraph*.

The *Times*, part of Murdoch's News Corp Ltd, kicked off the tit-for-tat war by cutting its cover

price to 30 pence in what analysts saw as a calculated bid to force weaker players out of the broadsheet market. When *The Daily Telegraph* matched the price, *The Times* cut again to 20 pence (31 cents).

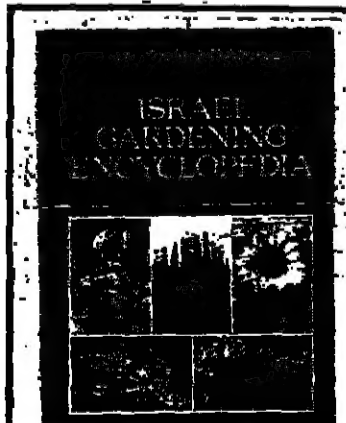
The Independent's daily circulation has sunk to around 275,000, well below its peak of about 400,000, compared with just under a million copies at *The Telegraph*, more than 500,000 at *The Times* and 400,000 at *The Guardian*, which can draw upon an established left-leaning readership.

"This temporary price adjustment recognizes the competitiveness at the top end of the newspaper market," publishers Newspaper Publishing said.



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The Likud dilemma

THE Likud is in a quandary. The Washington Declaration has put it on the spot. As an opposition party, it has vehemently opposed the government's peace initiatives. It sees in them a dangerous departure from the Camp David accords and the Madrid formula, and a prescription for the establishment of a Palestinian state in the 1949 armistice lines.

But its leaders could not in good conscience oppose an agreement with Jordan. As advocates of peace with security, they could hardly find fault with a declaration which does not commit Israel to any significant concessions, but promotes negotiations with a neighboring state. The Likud has never supported the "Jordanian option" if it meant relinquishing the territories of Judea and Samaria to Jordan. But it has supported the Camp David accords, which envisioned a peace treaty with Amman and a major functional role for Jordan in the administered territories.

Nor can the Likud withhold support from an agreement which recognizes Jordan's "special role" concerning the Moslem shrines on the Temple Mount. The Temple Mount already has an inordinate measure of autonomy, and an open agreement with Jordan would do little more than simply formalize it. And although the Jordanian-financed Waqf prevents Jews from praying on the Mount, the Likud assumes, probably correctly, that most Israelis care little about it. The public's main concern is that all of Jerusalem remain under Israeli sovereignty. And if letting Jordan continue its control of the Mount will achieve this, it will be deemed an acceptable price.

It was not, then, Benjamin Netanyahu's declaration of support for the Washington Declaration which took the public by surprise, but the asser-

tion by faction leader Moshe Katsav that the party should view the Oslo agreement as irreversible, and that the Likud would be ready to join a national unity government if Labor indicates that it truly intends to prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Katsav obviously believes that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's declared opposition to a Palestinian state is genuine. He must have also noticed that prominent Laborites have joined the "Third Way" movement and openly criticized the egregious concessions Israel has made to the PLO. These Laborites favor returning to the Labor platform of "territorial compromise," which would let Israel retain the Golan and some of Judea and Samaria. The presence of a hawkish party in the governing coalition would obviously strengthen them and perhaps affect government policies. That Rabin is in favor of such presence can be surmised from his efforts to bring the Yit'ud party into the coalition.

But Yit'ud is a minor faction which can easily be controlled. If Rabin encourages the Likud to join his coalition, he will be signaling doubts about the agreement with the PLO and second thoughts about withdrawing from the Golan. It will mean a complete reassessment of the government's policies over the past two years. Such a dramatic turnaround at this point is doubtful indeed. The relative calm in the administered territories and the universal kudos for the government's initiatives make it well-nigh impossible.

If the Likud leaders truly wish to prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state and the loss of the Golan, they will have to stop dreaming of joining the government and function as an effective opposition.

Speed kills

THERE may be differences of opinion about what can be done about traffic accidents, but one fact is indisputable: speed kills. According to Dr. Elimu Richter, head of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, the death toll on the roads has grown dramatically as a result of raising the speed limit from 90 km per hour to 100 kph.

Richter says the number of deaths in Israel has risen by 30-50 percent since the speed limit was raised. But the phenomenon is known everywhere, as experience in France, Germany, and Denmark has shown. Higher speeds mean more frequent and more lethal collisions.

The other side of the coin is that a reduction in the speed limit causes a concomitant reduction in the number of deaths. This has been proved most dramatically in the US, where the oil crisis in the 1970s, which forced a reduction of legal speed limits to save gasoline, also caused a dramatic reduction in the number of fatalities on the roads.

Richter says he will ask the Transport Ministry to return to the old speed limit. But obviously this is not enough. Carnage on Israel's roads is one of Israel's most urgent challenges. It not only claims far more casualties than hostile action; it is mostly preventable. In traffic deaths, Israel has the second worst record in the developed world.

The reasons are not only speed. They range from woefully inadequate pedestrian crossings to

inferior highways; from badly maintained vehicles to drivers' machismo and the absence of driving etiquette and discipline; from the inadequacy of the traffic police force to the lightness of the penalties imposed on transgressors. That drivers found guilty of killing on the road can have their licenses restored is one of the least comprehensible aspects of Israeli law.

In June, Labor MK Avraham Burg and Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi drafted a bill to reorganize the fight against traffic accidents. The bill would put the problem in its proper perspective by establishing a supreme authority headed by the prime minister, which would report regularly to the cabinet and the Knesset. It mandates road-safety education programs starting in grade one; periodic examinations of drivers before renewing licenses; stiff punishment for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and other vital measures. One should like to hope that the fact that MKs on the opposite sides of the political spectrum have collaborated on this bill will make its passage certain.

The government should also reassess its intention to build a cross-country super-highway. As such, the idea of making the northern and southern parts of the land more accessible is unexceptionable. But since resources are limited, it may be more advisable to develop a fast-train network instead. It would not only be more efficient. By keeping drivers off the fast road, it would save an untold number of lives.



Caution over Jordan

OUR romance with Jordan has always been simple, yet complicated. That was true even before 1950, when Jordan was only the Emirate of Transjordan.

The simple aspect lies in Jordan's being something not quite natural from the day it was created. It was unstable, it needed our support, and it was ready to pay for it. The complexity arises from the same cause.

Jordan was born in 1921, when the British had to compensate the Hashemite family for King Faisal's expulsion from Damascus and his enthrone in Baghdad, and the consequent denial of the Iraqi crown to his brother Abdullah. Thus Jordan is a state with a very brief history. Its national ethos and culture are virtually nil.

The country's population at its birth was 300,000. Half were nomads, spread over more than 90,000 square kilometers. The glue holding them together was very weak, since their identity was anything but Jordanian or Transjordanian.

In the years since, there have been all sorts of changes on both sides of the Jordan River. Clearly, the Hashemite dynasty has succeeded in surviving despite numerous gloomy prophecies. It has even witnessed the fall of not a few Arab foes.

There was also a huge increase in Jordan's population, not primarily through natural growth. The great majority of today's Jordanians are designated Palestinians; more than two-thirds of Hussein's countrymen were born

in Western Palestine, or are the descendants of families from there. Almost all of them moved to Jordan and were absorbed there before the 1967 Six-Day War.

To use a definition approved by the PLO, all these people continue to be Palestinians, particularly as they live in territory regarded since the second century CE as "Palestine," speak the language of "ordinary" Palestinians and are linked to them by close family ties.

THESE FACTS must remain in our consciousness in any final settlement we try to reach with the Kingdom of Jordan - all the more so when such an accommodation is given an ideological dimension or placed in a long-term perspective.

Our need to reduce confrontation with the Jordanian regime as much as possible and increase cooperation with it as far as we can is self-evident. It is also a natural interest of that regime.

And strengthening Hussein appears reasonable, even if he rushes to demand American payment in the form of state-of-the-art warplanes for his contribution to peace.

However, when Foreign Minister Peres loudly proclaims that Israel is thus according legitimacy to the Hashemite monarchy and thereby causing the collapse of his political rivals' contention that "Jordan is Palestine," he appears to be entering the realm of illogic.

If we're talking about simple legitimization, Hussein got it from the international community long ago, and he certainly isn't asking us for it now. (Nor is there any advantage in our sounding patronizing.)

If an attempt is being made to interfere in the domestic affairs of a neighboring state, then it should be done more astutely and less blatantly.

And if we're talking about forecasts for the not-too-distant future, we mustn't forget the fluidity inherent in the situation: the uncertainty that will engulf Hashemite rule the moment Hussein is no longer there; the unceasing covetousness of the Saudis, Iraqis and Syrians vis-a-vis Jordan; and the fact that Jordan is, nevertheless, Palestine.

And that is so not because of one or that Israeli political party, but as a result of objective reasons.

In sum, caution is called for over Jordan. Our leaders must concentrate on calculated thought, and not rhetoric.

One gets the worrying feeling that that isn't what's happening.

The writer is a scientist who comments on current affairs.

Pearl in the crown of Israel

THE recent murder of a Druse woman by her brother, who ostensibly couldn't stand her "deterioration" as a result of exposure to Western mores, has rekindled interest in the political and social development of the Druse community in Israel.

It is unfortunate that such media coverage is necessary for us to acknowledge the existence and importance of the Druse, one of the pearls in the crown of Israel. The Druse are living proof that Jews and non-Jews can coexist in a Jewish state and share the burden of defending the state, thereby building a solid foundation for citizenship that amalgamates the Jewish nature of the country with the principles of equality and democracy.

The 85,000 Druse in Israel represent less than 10 percent of the Arabic-speaking minorities. We now have Druse brigadier-generals, industrialists, diplomats, doctors and lawyers.

This is an innovation. Historically, Druse society has been an exclusively rural phenomenon, concentrated in the mountains in order to avoid persistent persecution. The Druse religion was born in 11th-century Egypt as an offshoot of the Ismaili branch of Islam, but is also heavily influenced by medieval neo-Platonic philosophy. These factors have combined to create a fairly liberal faith based on monotheism, a belief in the transmigration of the soul, monogamy, strong ethics and a sharp differentiation between those who are privy to the secrets of the faith and those who are not.

One cannot convert to become a Druse. The exclusiveness of Druse society and the secret nature of the religious writings have together helped maintain the society's identity over the centuries.

The Druse and the Zionists have been allies since the mid-1930s, building on traditions of friendship going back to the days of Jethro, a major prophet in the Druse heritage. This alliance cul-

minated in a decision in the mid-1950s to extend Israeli compulsory conscription to all Druse men, thereby forging the "alliance of blood" of which the Druse are so proud.

They have lived up to the slogan of equal duty, and can rightfully demand equal rights. Yet the quest for equality has not yet reached its goal.

On most indices of social development, the Druse are the most backward of all ethnic groups in Israel. Their educational system is the weakest, the number of students per population the lowest, the number of professionals in the community incomparably smaller than among Jews, Christians or Moslems. Although a great deal has been done to rectify this situation, the basic deficiencies are far from being remedied.

THIS IS a double tragedy, for the Druse compare themselves not only to the Jewish majority, but also to the other minorities, particularly in the many mixed villages and townships where they live.

The comparison is particularly galling. Christians and Moslems (who are exempt from conscription) not only enjoy a higher starting point, but use the three years which Druse men invest in military service to acquire a university degree or get a head start in business. This appears manifestly unfair to the Druse, and

who can blame them for being upset?

The Druse, of course, can and should do a great deal more to help themselves. They have to overcome problems of leadership after the death of their spiritual leader, Sheikh Amin Tarif, a few months ago; they need to build institutions, improve municipal government, provide more help for their own educational system.

Yet they also desperately need resources for such development, and only the government can provide them.

Previous governments, while not performing brilliantly on this issue, at least acknowledged the need to help the Druse catch up, thereby laying a foundation for policy.

The present government has, apparently, failed to appreciate this need. At times its officials argue (anonymously) that the Druse are just "a drop in the bucket," and that Israel's future depends on cultivating a relationship with the millions of Palestinians.

This is a grave mistake. While trying to make friends of erstwhile enemies is admirable in the abstract, it makes no sense if in doing so, the Druse are sacrificed on the altar of such principles. It would amount to declaring that friendship with Israel and loyalty to it are worthless. This is something Israel cannot afford, either politically or morally.

Helping the Druse help themselves wouldn't just be a satisfying exercise in indulging social and ethical instincts. It would also be a vivid demonstration that it pays to opt for friendship with Israel.

Those who favor ignoring this group of people should remember what Napoleon said when informed of the assassination of the Duke of Orleans: "This is not only a crime, but a mistake!"

The writer is professor of political science at the University of Haifa and academic director for the Graduate Studies Program at the IDF's National Security College.

Zero nukes

GWYNNE DYER

NEVER ask the barber if you need a haircut, the saying goes, but we live in the age of miracles. Charles Horner is a general in the US Air Force, and he was one of its top commanders in the Gulf war. He is now the head of US Space Command. But he thinks the US should scrap all its nuclear weapons.

"I want to get rid of them all," he said in a meeting with defense reporters in Washington on July 15. "I just don't think nuclear weapons are usable. I'm not saying we should militarily disarm, [but] what are nuclear weapons good for? Busting cities. What president of the United States is going to take out Pyongyang?"

Nuclear weapons aren't just militarily useless; for great powers like the US, they are actually a grave political handicap. "I want to go to zero and I'll tell you why," said Horner. "If we and the Russians can go to zero nuclear weapons, then think what that does for us.... Think of the high moral ground we secure by having none."

High moral ground that coaters military and political advantages: if you don't have nuclear weapons at all, you can set about the urgent

A 'clean' US owning no nuclear weapons would be able to exhort others not to build them

business of stopping nuclear proliferation with clean hands. As Horner put it: "It's kind of hard for us to say to North Korea, 'You are terrible people, you are developing a nuclear weapon,' when the US has thousands of them." Horner's conversion to a non-nuclear military policy comes very late in his career (he plans to retire soon), but better late than never. Particularly since his remarks were clearly intended to influence the Clinton administration's current review of all US nuclear forces and strategies.

About time, too. The Cold War is over, the Soviet Union is one with the ages, and there is no discernible reason for the US to have all these nuclear weapons.

YET THE weapons are still there. Nobody talks about nuclear war any more, but the ability to wage it has scarcely diminished at all - and the thousands of nuclear weapons owned by the great powers put them in a morally indefensible position when they exhort others not to build them.

This is crazy, because the real problem is the lesser powers, the North Koreans and Iranians and Libyas, who might build a few nuclear weapons and drop them on their neighbors. Not to mention those countries that already possess unacknowledged nuclear weapons: Israel, India, Pakistan and (at least until recently) South Africa.

The aim should be to persuade these countries to forgo the dubious luxury of owning nuclear weapons that might one day actually be used in war. But the entire enterprise is crippled by hypocrisy if you cannot pry the fingers of Americans, Russians, British, French and Chinese off their own unusable nuclear weapons.

That is why Horner's outburst is so timely. And he is not alone: thousands of professional officers share his views about the uselessness and sheer perniciousness of nuclear weapons, not just in the US armed forces but in those of the other great powers as well.

So what are the odds that the arguments of professional soldiers like Horner will actually sway the debate over nuclear weapons policy in the US? Not so poor as you might think.

We will not get down to zero any time soon, if ever, but the climate of opinion has changed. Consider, for example, the fact that the US, Russia, Britain and France continue to observe their voluntary moratorium on all nuclear tests, even underground, despite repeated Chinese tests.

They all calculate that this Chinese defiance of the developing international consensus to ban all nuclear tests will last only as long as the decrepit old men who now hold power in Beijing. And a comprehensive nuclear test ban is a key tool in deterring new candidates from joining the nuclear club.

The only way to stop proliferation, however, is to ban the weapons themselves. So long as the Cold War persisted, that was a dream. But in the present world, it is a possibility. The silent majority within every country's armed forces which abhors these weapons and regards them as the negation of military art and military honor can be useful allies in the task.

The writer is a London-based freelance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BLACK ANTISEMITISM

Sir, - Xandra Kaydon and Madison T. Shockey ("Blacks and Jews," July 19) identify "Afrocentrism" as a new factor which American Jews must take into account to understand black antisemitism. They say Afrocentrism "draws attention to several points of divergence between the two communities, such as support of the Palestinians." The Palestinians are not Africans. Egypt is in Africa but black America didn't concern itself with Israel-Egyptian matters. Why Palestinians? Not out of special concern for Africans but for a desire to strike at Jews.

For years TV and other media have

extensively reported the devastation sweeping African countries. Afro-Americans aren't seen in relief efforts as doctors, nurses or in other roles. Does it not follow that Afro-Americans aren't genuinely concerned with the wellbeing of Africans?

Perhaps non-participation is rooted in frustration that their help won't really matter. Too, there is their rising frustration on the American domestic front of seemingly insurmountable problems centered in their community. This then may well feed the need for Jewish scapegoats.

JOSIAH L. LAMDEN

Tel Aviv.

WHO PAYS THE DAMAGES?

Sir, - On July 17 you published a letter by Miriam Lahav in which she held Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert responsible for payment to Arabs for property damaged in the disturbances after the mass demonstration protesting Arafat's visit. It sounded reasonable at the time.

Now I wonder if Miriam Lahav is ready to hold Arafat responsible for the damage that was done at the Erez checkpoint, or is she of the opinion that the State of Israel should pay for this?

MURRAY S. GREENFIELD

Tel Aviv.

"POST MORTEM"

Sir, - I live in the central part of Holon, purportedly Israel's third largest city.

When two important letters mailed on the same day from different locations arrived in Holon four days late last week, I confronted the postman, who replied: "What do you want from me, I am only a substitute. Your regular postman is on vacation."

It seems that in the decade of faxes and satellite communication, Holon's postal authorities keep their citizens at the communication level of the last century.

BARUCH SCHAEFER

Holon.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Sir, - I applaud G.L. Goodman's "The right to own a car" (Letters, July 12). A trans-Israel highway will not solve our traffic jams; by the time it is completed, increased traffic will require a new super-highway. One solution, I believe, would be to encourage commuters to use public transport, by improving its service and promoting its use.

I must be a snob, because I commute by bus even though I own a car, which I use sparingly, when necessary. In our area, we have regular bus routes to north, central and south Tel Aviv. The buses, especially the long ones, are comfortable and air-condi-

tioned. Double-decker buses traveling between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, for example, are silent and comfortable, and even allow for sleeping during the journey.

I believe that a greater part of the working public could quite easily use public transport to reach their places of work. If they did so, this could considerably relieve the morning and evening rush-hour traffic jams.

Yes, I am a snob; I use public transport.

HAIM MILLER

Ganei Tikva.

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Live Cohen is dead on arrival

NEW RELEASES

TIRZAH AGASSI

LOCAL audiences adore Leonard Cohen, and with good reason. He is an unparalleled songwriter and a singer of some originality.

But making *Cohen Live* (NMC) a top-seller is really going too far. This is a truly pitiful album.

It's not the song selection. That's just fine, featuring everything from "Dance Me to the End of Love" to "Hallelujah" to "Suzanne."

The problem is the tempo of the interpretation. It is so slow...O...W as to be quite painful.

There are those who have said that the arrangements here sound as cheesy as a local wedding band. I'm willing to forgive that, chalking the odd and mandolin up to taverna-style charm.

But how could Cohen be so cruel as to turn the incandescent "Bird On A Wire" into a funeral dirge? Give me the Neville Brothers' version of the song any day.

JAY CONRAD is a Dutchman who used to play with Belgian singer Dani Klein. His *A Penniless Gentleman* (Hed Arzi) is produced by Klein.

The album sounds just like its name, a somewhat lowlife mood piece, an amiably world-weary



On his live album Leonard Cohen has managed to turn the most incandescent material into a funeral dirge.

pose. This is okay as background music, but not so hot up close.

Conrad has none of Cohen's craft or inspiration. What he does have is a knack for helping the time pass with his impersonation of the demimonde of the 1930s.

He's not as energetic as Klein, who's *Vaya Con Dios* albums have become staples in pubs and cafes. Yet he may find a similar niche.

TRAFFIC'S *Far From Home* (Helicon) is a reasonably good album. Groups that reunite 20 years after their heyday tend to be an embarrassment.

But this effort by Steve Winwood and Jim Capaldi, though not wildly exciting, does provide the kind of tightly knit, soft-yet-insistent music that can lighten the

night. They don't have a whole lot to say, but nice harmonies and riffs have their place—creating a mood that's mature, yet still in tune with bygone dreams of freedom.

These men are professionals providing a latter-day *Low Spark of Well Heeled Yuppies*, that goes so far as to bow to the global village with percussion and instru-

mentation from places white boys didn't use to visit.

Steve Winwood is not much of a lyricist, but the opening to "Holy Ground" is convincing.

The instrument played sounds something like a cross between a violin and a bagpipe. And it sounds good.

One can be middle-class and middle-aged and still find God.

Her next creative project will be delivered

USUALLY, when people in the music business talk about "the big picture," what they're thinking about is long-term sales strategy—how to build a buzz around an artist, how to generate momentum on a project, how to navigate the transition from cult favorite to mass-market superstar.

As such, it's fairly easy to imagine what those folks would see as Tori Amos's next move.

Thanks to the fan-base she built with her last album, *Little Earthquakes*, Amos now has all the earmarks of a cult star about to break big. Her concerts routinely sell out, and her current album, *Under the Pink*, has passed the half-million mark and is still selling steadily.

So what music-biz logic would demand is a new album in early '95, with a heavy push on the singles and extensive touring.

Amos, though, operates on a slightly different agenda. Consequently, the only thing she plans to deliver next year is a baby.

"I'm targeting the next record for the fall of '96," she says, over the phone from a tour stop in Kansas City. "And I have a couple things on the back burner. I've done something on the Leonard Cohen tribute that I'm very excited about, because you know what an influence his writing's been to so many. Then I did a duet with Robert Plant, which I'm very ex-



Keeping things on a personal level is a central part of the way Tori Amos operates.

cited about. It's going to be on the Zeppelin tribute that's coming out in January."

She's also writing the score for a BBC radio adaptation of stories from Neil Gaiman's comic *The Sandman*. Interesting work, all of it—but hardly the most obvious career move.

"It's funny, because [Warner Music US president] Doug Morris, when he heard that I was going to do this other stuff, said, 'I could have thought of 10 things you would do—like run off with the devil would have been one of

J.D. CONSIDINE

them—before having a baby and not doing another record right away."

"I said, 'Well, it's about making a great record, and I think [what is] going to help me make more interesting work is if I feed myself on a personal level.'"

Keeping things on a personal level isn't just a priority for Amos—it's a central part of the way Amos operates. Take the way she talks about her songs. Where other artists might speak of album tracks or singles, Amos thinks of her compositions as "the girls," with each having its own needs and individual character.

For instance, one of the reasons she uses taped backing tracks when performing "God" and "Cornflake Girl" is that the songs don't quite work as solo piano pieces. The piano, she says, "is the glue holding those tunes together, but it is only the glue. It's not like the wood also."

BUT THE other reason she gives has more to do with the kind of personality those songs have.

"You know how some songs can have a party on their own, with a little book and a bottle of champagne?" she says. "Well, these two girls have to have loads of people there."

As such, Amos is able to maintain the kind of ongoing relation-

ship with her work that keeps even older material, such as "Silent All These Years" and "Me and a Gun," fresh each night.

"I just think I'm able to understand 'Silent' now," she says. "So the writer side of me is going, 'God, these songs are so current.' They have a power that, at the time, I didn't really know how to translate on tape."

"It's the same with 'Under the Pink,'" she adds. "I think I'm doing [songs such as] 'Icicle' better than I've ever done on record, because I'm growing into them."

"So for my next step as a writer, well, I don't know where we're going next, but I'm feeling pieces of it coming together."

Whereas "Little Earthquakes" was more of a diary and "Under the Pink" is more an impressionist painting, this project is maybe a little bit of both and something completely different. So I know that I need time to make it great, and I won't put anything out that I'm not really proud of.

Fortunately, Amos has some help on that end. "Silent" is as current to me as anything I'm writing now, and it's leading me by the hand," she says. "She's saying, 'That wasn't clever enough, Tori. That line isn't good. You can't do that. I won't let it through my door.'"

Amos laughs. "Silent" is my doorknocker," she says. "She's really stonky about who comes to

the party."

Not that Amos has any time to party herself. "I'm a bit in a weird space right now, because my body's so tired," she says.

Finishing the "Sandman" score while on tour has made a tight schedule even tighter for her. "I'm having a keyboard brought in, in between waking up, getting a plane, doing interviews, and going to sound check, and doing the show," she says. "So I'm a bit of a lunatic right now."

Fortunately, there's one Tori project she's not in charge of: The Book of Amos. "My father is putting out a pictorial biography, through Music Sales, who prints all my sheet music," she says. "I picture[s] since I was a little kid, of when I was at Peabody, and my recitals and stuff."

Why? Amos says her parents thought it was important "to show an accurate accounting of what really happened. There's so much unclear information, I think because I started so little."

"So it's not like you're just getting pictures of two years ago. You're getting recitals from when I was seven and eight. True press clippings, from when things really came out. And rejection letters that I got from presidents of record companies saying I'd never have a chance." She laughs devilishly. "We're going to print a couple of those."

(The Baltimore Sun)

A video prance on dance

DANCE

DORA SOWDEN

EVEN from seeing only one program of the bounty of Video Dance films sent by the Pompidou Center in Paris, it is possible to maintain that cameramen are still playing games and that dancers are still better seen on stage than on screen.

Most of the films shown at the Israel Museum on July 25 were superficial snippets about dark places, water to be drowned in, plastic shapes and camera cuts and capers.

Not so *Planet Bagouet*, a long biography of Dominique Bagouet, the French choreographer-dancer who died last July at 41. It traces the evolution of his career as discussed by members of his company and shown in quotations from his works. This is what makes the video worthwhile.

Bagouet's earlier works are interesting, but his talent emerged in strength in his latest and last creations, which lucky people who attended the performances at the Israel Museum on July 23 and 24 and at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv on July 27 and 28 (when several of Bagouet's works were screened) were able to see.

In the published programs there were works by great choreographers like Merce Cunningham (US), Pina Bausch (Germany) and Sankai Juku (Japan).

They will all no doubt be of the utmost value to preserve memories of works for study and some also just for enjoyment. They establish once again that the camera can do things the stage cannot, but also that there is as yet no substitute for the stage.

FOR THOSE who missed the Krensky-Etzion performance at the Jerusalem Habimah Theater some time ago, the chance to see it came again at the Yaron Yerushalmi Theater in Tel Aviv on July

27. Whether changes had been made or not, it still followed the popular trend of making music and movement encourage each other in a sort of conversation.

Each of the four admirable performers was highly successful in a personal sphere: Yael Krensky, strong limbed in her movement control; Adi Etzion, expert in her vocalization; Liora Axelrod, dancing as well as ever; and Ron Ratif, a violinist having it all at his fingertips with a conspicuous ability to communicate.

FOR THE summer courses this year, the Bat-Dor studios in Tel Aviv threw their nets wide for teachers and introduced new elements, as the workshop performance showed on July 24 at the Bat-Dor Theater.

Harry Hawthorne came from Britain and staged three 19th-century dances—two of them from Petipa ballets and one from Bour-ville. They brought a new tone into this type of workshop performance—a neater, softer line of dance.

Two Americans—Tee Ross and Earl Mosely—choreographed lively modern works for young dancers. Three Israelis—Rosaline Subol-Kassel, Ania Brud and Tamir Ginz—also contributed to the program and, as on other occasions, Joe Orlando rounded off the performance with a jazz group dance in his American way.

TWO ISRAELIS who have made names for themselves abroad came to teach at the Rubin Academy Summer Dance Courses in Jerusalem this year. They are Ya'acov Sharir, who has a company in Austin, Texas, where he also teaches his modern-dance methods, and Ze'eva Cohen, who teaches, dances and choreographs in New York.

FANTASIA FOR PIANO

By Aliza Olmert. Direction, Gedaliah Besser. Design, Jerzy Kowarsky. Music, Oded Zehavi. Lighting, Michal Chernavsky. Hebrew title, *Fantasia*. Le-pianist, Cameri, at ZOA House, Tel Aviv.

Halina Zaharira Harifai
Zagorsky Yael Carmon
Old man Albert Cohen
Anna Hannah Rot

THIS play does two things for the Cameri and its audiences. First, it gives exposure to a quartet of its most renowned players. These days actors of the caliber of Zaharira Harifai, Yossi Carmon, Albert Cohen and Hannah Rot are only too rarely seen on our stages.

Second, it projects a moving, much neglected theme—the post-Holocaust trauma of survivors revisiting the scene of persecution. Anna Singer, an Israeli grandmother returning to her birthplace in Poland, is confronted by descendants of the servants who consigned her family to Auschwitz and later seized the family home and possessions.

Granted that the subject, situation and sentiment are all of a kind to engage people here at the deep-

THEATER REVIEW

NAOMI DOUDAI

est level, the author has it sold to the audience from the start.

Keening with memories and associations, young and old are primed to empathize with every emotion.

The failure of the play to meet the mildest of these expectations is a let-down spiritually and theatrically.

In the end, all the writer realizes is a total insensitivity to the possibilities of stirring material evidently experienced at first hand.

MUSIC, figuring as dramatically as it does here, substitutes for lack of tension, suspense and developing dynamic.

Highly caricatured characterizations, shrill enactment, and melodramatic and violent onstage action are among the tactics the director and actors use to compensate for a feeble text.

The implausible story of the salvaging of Anna's piano is thereby forced to something short of a satisfactory finish.

Olmert, a TV writer, has strung

together a script that fails to meet the very different technical demands of theater.

Trying to make up for its glaring deficiencies, director and cast overcompensate with bizarre stage business and a high-pitched performance.

Rot, however, errs on the other side by understating the role of Anna, the returning survivor.

As for the rest, Harifai and Carmon long before the end outdo each other and Albert Cohen in impassioned screaming and crude caricature.

Considering the many precious moments in which as husband and wife Harifai and Carmon show us their true magnificence, we can only deplore the futility of the play that brings them to such a pass.

TOWER RECORDS' TOP 15

THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	CHARTS	ARTIST	TITLE
#1	2	24	DAVID BROZA	MASSADA
#2	1	4	HIT MAN 1994	VOLUME 5
#3	3	5	LEONARD COHEN	LIVE
#4	10	43	BOAZ SHARASHI	YOU ARE THE NIGHT TO ME
#5	18	5	GYPSY KINGS	BEST OF
#6	12	11	ZKNEI TZFAT	ZKNEI TZFAT
#7	4	22	MARIAN CAREY	MUSIC BOX
#8	6	4	TOP POP 1994	VOLUME 4
#9	14	33	ACHINOAM NINI	NINI AND DOR
#10	17	2	ETHNIX	YOU
#11	21	4	AMV GEFEN	IS
#12	3	3	FILM SOUNDTRACK	THE LION KING
#13	7	12	GLYKERIA	LIVE
#14	5	43	SHLOMO ARTZI	COMPLETE COLLECTION
#15	13	4	AEROSMITH	GET A GRIP

Tower Records' top-selling albums for the previous week. RE—re-entry

Series cops 26 Emmy nods

VERNE GAY

and BEN KUBASIK

TALK about justice.

NYPD Blue, the ABC drama vilified for its language and nudity and ignored by dozens of skittish national advertisers, was covered in glory recently when it received a record 26 Emmy nominations.

Indeed, few would dispute that the richly produced and splendidly written series—which airs locally Tuesday evenings on The New Channel 2—was the best program on television last season.

The Emmy nods have vindicated cocreators David Milch and Steven Bochco, who both struggled with ABC censors for nearly three years to get the show on the air in its present form. Bochco alone fought for nearly six months with ABC executives to allow certain words to be used.

At the time, Milch said that "we were not looking to scandalize or titillate."

But the nudity and language provided "the kind of wedge for a larger and different concern, which was to tell realistic stories about New York cops."

"It was our feeling that it was simply not possible or worth doing a series without some degree of freedom in language and, just as important, freedom in subject matter."

But when *NYPD Blue* premiered on September 21, 1993, it looked like the fight was just beginning.

Fifty-seven ABC stations—representing 10 percent of all US TV households—refused to air the show because the first episode featured expletives and partial nudity. It was the biggest station boycott of a TV show in history.

Advertisers also stayed away. Although figures are not available, it is widely believed that ABC lost money on the show in its first season.

This fall, the picture looks brighter. An ABC spokeswoman said last week that "30 stations, the majority of which are in very small markets, are not [currently] carrying it. As a result, only 3.5 percent of the US is unable to see the show."

Advertising support has also grown: About 85 percent of the show's commercial time has been sold for next season.

Milch and Bochco first began working together in the mid-'80s, when both were producers on *Hill Street Blues*.

Bochco went on to form his own production company, and signed a \$50 million, 10-series deal with ABC that wrought a modest hit (*Doogie Howser, M.D.*) and a huge bomb (*Cop Rock*).

Milch, a one-time Yale professor and creative-writing instructor, approached Bochco in 1991 about doing a harshly realistic show about New York city cops. Bochco quickly commissioned two scripts, and a hit was born.

HERE IS a thumbnail sketch of the *NYPD Blue* Emmy nominees:

• Dennis Franz (Detective Andy Sipowicz): Franz, 49, is a native of Maywood, Illinois, a Chicago suburb, who served in Vietnam and began his career as part of the Organic Theater Co., a well-regarded Windy City troupe.

He estimates he has played

"more than 25" cops on TV and in the movies, including the sleazy Norman Buntz on *Hill Street Blues* who was then spun off on his own short-lived series, *Beverly Hills Buntz*.

• David Caruso (Detective John Kelly): The show's breakout star is a 37-year-old carrot-topped heartthrob who was born in the New York City borough of Queens.

Had supporting roles in several films, including *An Officer and a Gentleman*, *King of New York*, and *Mad Dog and Glory*. *NYPD Blue* turned him into a valuable commodity, now filming his first lead role in a Hollywood feature, a remake of the 1957 Richard Widmark classic, *Kiss of Death*.

He has also reportedly purchased the screen rights to the James O'Alessandro novel, *Bohemian Heart*, with an eye to starring in it.

• Gail McGrady (civilian assistant Donna Abandando): McGrady, 30, was born in Detroit and raised near Chicago. She has been acting professionally since 1986. Her most notable guest spots include *Malcolm*, *In the Heat of the Night*, and *China Beach*, in which she played Nancy Sinatra's backup singer. But she may be best known for her Diet Pepsi commercial, co-starring Michael J. Fox.

• Sharon Lawrence (Assistant District Attorney Sylvia Costas): A Charlotte, N.C., native, Lawrence was named North Carolina's Junior Miss at 17.

She sang at a nightclub to pay her way through University of North Carolina journalism school before embarking on a fulltime showbiz career as a singer on a cruise ship.

From 1990 to 1992 she starred as Zeitel in the Broadway revival of *Fiddler on the Roof*.

• Amy Brenneman (Detective Janice Licalsi): Brenneman is a 29-year-old with a Harvard degree in religion, but her true love is theater.

While in college, she helped start Cornerstone Theater, a well-known avant-garde troupe. She briefly acted in New York theater before moving to Hollywood, and landing a supporting role in the critically acclaimed but short-lived CBS series *Middle Ages*.

• Nicholas Turitto (Detective James Martinez): Turitto, 32, began acting at the urging of brother John (*Barton Fink*).

A native of New York City who attended Catholic elementary and high schools and spent two years at Adelphi University, he has appeared with his brother in Spike Lee's *Mo' Better Blues* and *Jungle Fever*.

• Gordon Clapp (Detective Greg Medavoy): Clapp, 45, was born and raised in North Conway, N.H., and is a graduate of Williams College. After theater work in New England and Toronto, he got a film role in *Running with Michael Douglas*.

He has since appeared in three John Sayles films: *Return of the Secaucus Seven*, *Mateman* and *Eight Men Out*.

TV appearances include *Night Court*, *Cheers*, *The Wonder Years*, *Cop Rock* and *Civil Wars*. (Newsday)

Ashdod strikes a new note

THE Ashdod Chamber Orchestra is the newest professional orchestra sprouting from immigration, primarily from the former Soviet Union.

Luis Gorelik, the new music director, regularly supplements the permanent body of 20 strings with winds and soloists for breadth and variety of repertoire.

The concert included Villa-Lobos's *Bachianas Brasileiras* No. 4, Bloch's *Concerto Grosso* for piano and strings, Mozart's *Symphony No. 33* and the Haydn *Piano Concerto* in D major—played by Yaminah Kodlik, a prize-winning virtuoso, schooled in Odessa.

Although only two seasons old, the Ashdod Chamber Orchestra

plays with an emerging personality of its own—clear, pure intonation, a flowing ensemble sense and a delicate pianissimo that rivals orchestras in Rehovot, Ra'anana and Rishon LeZion.

Gorelik has distinguished himself among young local conductors since his arrival a decade ago from Argentina.

He has won a prize from the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and served as assistant in Haifa. He stresses lyricism and tone color in his interpretation rather than punctuating the musical phrase with heavy dramatic portent.

Yad Labanim Auditorium, Ashdod, July 28

Max Stern

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'Flying Ukrainian' sets world pole vault record

SESTRIERE, Italy (AP) — Sergei Bubka set the 35th world record of his career Sunday, overshadowing a long-expected showdown between Americans Mike Powell and Carl Lewis at Europe's highest track meet.

The 30-year-old "Flying Ukrainian" won a \$130,000 Ferrari sports car for clearing 6.14 meters in the pole vault event.

The prize, offered to anyone who could break a record in the 2,035-meter altitude of this Alpine resort, went unclaimed for the last five years.

Bubka improved by one centimeter his previous world record set in Tokyo in 1992 with just three jumps. His impressive series of 5.70, 5.90 and 6.14 all cleared on the first attempt.

A four-time world champion and an 1988 Olympic gold medalist, Bubka said he planned to take several weeks off to rest after years of tough competitions.

He announced that he will not compete in the European Championships at Helsinki on August 7-14 to prepare for the world indoor and outdoor championships next year and for the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

Wind gusts which helped Bubka's runs spoiled attempts by Powell and Lewis to set new records in their first confrontation since the Barcelona Olympics in 1992.

Powell, the defending world champion, beat the Olympic gold medalist with a wind-aided long jump of 8.95 meters — his only valid jump out of six.

Measures obtained with the wind blowing at more than two meters per second do not enter the record books.

Lewis, who deserted the long jump event in the Goodwill Games in St. Petersburg, finished second with 8.72, also wind-aided. His only jump in regular wind condition, at 8.66, earned him the best world performance of the year.

The Olympic champion, who's equally good in sprints and long jump, said he was happy with his performance, despite defeat.

"The good point is that I set the best measure for the year, and that I'm no longer troubled by back pains," Lewis said.



UP, UP, AND AWAY — Sergei Bubka clears the bar to set the new world pole vault record of 6.14 meters. (AP)

Lewis arrived in Sestriere from St. Petersburg on Saturday night, hours before the start of the meet which is held early in the day to take advantage of better weather conditions.

However Sunday's conditions were less than favorable, with wind blowing up to five meters per second, a temperature of only 15 C and 70 percent humidity.

Powell said he made a good jump "although I'm not 100 percent fit. I'm nursing hamstring and heel problems."

He said he was impressed by Lewis's good runs and jumps.

"He jumped very well. His comeback to top levels (in long jump) is good to me, and to athletics. It gives me more motivations," Powell said.

Another American long jumper, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, had an impressive performance in the women's event, reaching 7.49 meters without wind aid.

While beating her German rival Heike Drechsler by 10 centimeters, Joyner-Kersey fell three centimeters short of the 1988 world record of Galina Chistakova.

IFA court rules Revivo is Maccabi Haifa's man

ORI LEWIS

HAIM Revivo's move to Maccabi Haifa was completed yesterday, as the Israel Football Association's tribunal forced Hapoel chairman Yoram Oberkowitz to forfeit the player from the ranks of Hapoel Tel Aviv.

The controversial record-setting transfer, in which Revivo went to Haifa for a reported fee of around \$700,000, was finally settled when retired judge Shani Aloni, chairman of the IFA tribunal, ruled that Oberkowitz could not hold up the transfer.

Oberkowitz, who heads the Hapoel sports organization, refused to add his name to that of Momi Harel, chairman of Hapoel Tel Aviv soccer club. Harel and team manager, Moshe Simi had decided to let Revivo go after the latter had expressed his wish to leave Bloomfield for Kiryat Eliezer.

Oberkowitz and his No. 2, Ya'akov Avimor, claimed the deal had been done behind their backs and that it was illegal.

Aloni's ruling set a precedent, however. He wrote that a player could not be forced to play for a club against his will and he was therefore ordering the transfer to be completed without Oberkowitz's signature on the transfer form.

IFA procedure in transfers requires two signatures each by the heads of the club selling a player and by the club buying a player.

Revivo's form was signed only by Harel for the sellers, Hapoel Tel Aviv.

The move was completed in time for Revivo, who is currently at Maccabi Haifa's training camp in the Netherlands, to join that side's line-up for the upcoming European Cup preliminary round matches against Casino Salzburg. The UEFA deadline for naming squads was yesterday, and not the previous day as Haifa had thought it was.

Haifa will host the Austrians at Kiryat Eliezer on August 10 with the return leg in Austria on August 24. The winners will go through to the European Champions' League, a lucrative prospect for any side.

Haifa or Salzburg can expect to meet AC Milan, Ajax Amsterdam and possibly Glasgow Rangers in the next round.

Betaria gets off to shaky start

HEATHER CHAIT

THIS second Betaria — bringing together Betar athletes from all over the world — got off to a controversial start last night at the Jerusalem Theater.

After the rousing Betar anthem sung by Shalom Livnat, Minister of Education, Culture and Sport Amnon Rubinstein found himself heckled by the packed crowd for citing Betar's founder, Ze'ev Jabotinsky as a major human rights leader.

Rubinstein quoted Jabotinsky's dream of "two races living together as neighbors," adding, "the time he dreamed about has arrived."

The chairman of the Israeli Olympic Committee, Yoram Oberkowitz, also referred to the political nature of the tournament, saying that the choice of Ariel as a key venue shows "it's not just sport."

Six hundred athletes from five countries will compete in the competition, with the focus on basketball, table tennis, mini-soccer and swimming.

Israel's contestants will be against visitors from Hungary, England, France and the US.

The event is to last eight days with the closing ceremony next Monday night in Ariel in the presence of President Ezer Weizman.

Romario criticized for taking unauthorized vacation

BARCELONA (AP) — FC Barcelona coach Johan Cruyff lashed out at Brazilian superstar Romario yesterday for taking an unauthorized vacation and refusing to join the rest of the team as it prepares its run for a fifth-straight Spanish soccer title.

"This demonstrates a lack of respect towards his teammates," Cruyff told reporters just before Barcelona presented its lineup for the 1994-95 season.

The Dutch coach did not say whether the club would fine Romario, whose 30 goals last season led the Spanish league.

"All I know is that Romario hasn't shown up," he said. "I still haven't spoken with him. We hope he appears and when he does we'll take the decisions that have to be taken."

Romario, who sparked Brazil's victory in the World Cup last month, has said he plans to remain on vacation in the South American country for up to two more weeks.

Key pitches his way to 16th win

NEW YORK (AP) — Jimmy Key became the major first 16-game winner, and the New York Yankees continued their domination of Cleveland, beating the Indians for the 11th straight time Sunday, 4-1.

The Yankees' three-game sweep improved New York to 9-0 against the Indians this season. New York hasn't lost to Cleveland since Jim Abbott no-hit the Indians on September 4.

Key (16-3) benefitted from four double plays and two sparkling defensive plays. The left-hander had been roughed up in his previous two outings, but held the Indians to six hits in eight innings.

Bob Wickman got Albert Belle to hit a sacrifice fly with the bases loaded for the second out in ninth, and Steve Howe got the final out for his 15th save.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Braves 9, Phillies 5

Jeff Blaser had three hits, scored twice and drove in the go-ahead run as the host Braves came from behind.

Atlanta's bullpen, which blew a 2-1 ninth inning lead Sunday when the Phillies scored four runs to win, came through with 5 1/2 innings of two-hit relief after starter John Smoltz allowed seven hits and all five runs in 3 1/2 innings.

Mike Bielecki (2-0) earned the win with two scoreless innings of relief. Ben Rivera (3-4) was the loser.

SUNDAY'S NL RESULTS:
Atlanta 9, Philadelphia 5
New York 4, Pittsburgh 4
Chicago 3, St. Louis 7
Los Angeles 7, Houston 1
Cincinnati 2, San Diego 1 (10)
San Francisco 9, Colorado 4
Montreal 13, Florida 4

SUNDAY'S AL RESULTS:
Milwaukee 5, Boston 2
New York 4, Cleveland 1
Toronto 6, Baltimore 3
Kansas City 9, Minnesota 5
Chicago 3, Seattle 1
Detroit 5, Oakland 4
California 4, Texas 3



FAN TROUBLE — Atlanta's catcher Charlie O'Brien reaches in the stands to get a foul ball, which is caught by a fan. (Reuters)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

New York 64, Boston 58
Baltimore 58, Detroit 48
Toronto 48, Cleveland 48

Central Division

Chicago 68, Kansas City 58
Cleveland 58, Minnesota 48
Detroit 48, Milwaukee 48

West Division

Texas 44, Oakland 40
California 40, Seattle 40

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Montreal 85, Atlanta 82
Atlanta 82, Philadelphia 81
New York 81, Florida 46

Central Division

Cincinnati 81, St. Louis 71
Houston 78, San Diego 68
Pittsburgh 68, Chicago 47

West Division

Los Angeles 82, San Francisco 82
San Francisco 82, Colorado 57
San Diego 41, Seattle 41

Moss strikes in the desert

Post Sports Staff

THIS reign of terror that Alan Moss has wrought into the hearts of local cricketers continues unabated.

On Sunday, he ripped apart the hapless Beersheba team in taking a personal best of nine for 37, a dramatic piece of fast bowling.

Young Ashdod assured its place in the playoffs along with Neveh Yonathan and Ashdod A. The final five places will be decided August 13.

Tel Aviv 80/1 (Perelman 45 n.o.) best Beersheba 79 (Alan Moss 12/4/37/9). Elvira Stars 185/5 (Zion Moss 69 n.o.) best Netanya 183/6 (Dan Moss 52, Glen Fleischer 39, Richard Nickel 34).

Ashdod A 51/6 (Moshe Talbar 51/7) best Yerushalmi 50 (Asher Wadawar 51/5, Joel Sattamir 3/19). Neveh Yonathan 113/1 (Shimon Raj 51 n.o., Nafthali Raj 24 n.o., Nissim Kohen, Jr. 3/19) best Ramat (Moshe Johnson 32, Alby Daniels 5/49).

Young Ashdod 228 (Alby Talbar 53) best Dikma 177 (Jackie Divakar 69, Nissim Jind 5/35).

Hap. TA gets a face lift

JOEL GORDIN

TEN players out of 13 of last year's Hapoel Tel Aviv national league basketball team have left the squad and will play for other teams this year. This was announced yesterday at a press conference given by the club to introduce the team for the 1994/5 season.

Most of players left, said team manager Shani Eisenberg, as a result of drastic budget cuts. These were brought about mainly by the changing of the leadership at the Histadrut, one of the principal funders of Hapoel teams. The new secretary-general, Haim Ramon, wants national league teams to be self-sufficient.

Tomer Steinhamer, David Thirkill, Shimon Amalek, Ami Nave, Gilad Shimchoni, Nissim Markovic, Danny Alush, Asher Abutbul, Yaniv Bebirov and Dror Fahima all left while

Lior Ardeti (now captain), Ofer Fleisher and Roy Shadelsky remain. The replacements are American "Buck" Johnson and Milton Wagner, Gilad Katz (from Betar Ramat Gan), James Terry (from Hapoel Nahariya) and a number of players from the youth teams.

Eisenberg insists that the current team "will do better than the team last year" (which came second in the league and reached the finals of the State Cup).

In other basketball news, Hapoel Haifa has bought Michael Kennedy who played four years ago for Maccabi Rishon LeZion. He is the brother of Andrew Kennedy, formerly of Hapoel Galil Elyon, who will this year represent Hapoel Eilat. Michael has played in France, Spain and Turkey, since leaving Israel.

Greek coach pulls out of World Championships

ATHENS (AP) — Greek national basketball coach Efthymis Kioumourtzoglou abandoned his team before the World Championships in Toronto in a dispute with a player and returned home.

Kioumourtzoglou packed his bags and returned to Greece on Sunday before the team traveled to Toronto.

He accused center Panayiotis Fasoulas, a mainstay of the team since the mid-1980s, of ignoring his instructions while the team was playing a series of exhibition games in Washington D.C. last week. He said the dispute was over Fasoulas's unauthorized 24-hour visit to New York.

"There are players who place themselves above the national team. But basketball should be above all else," *Eleftherotypia* newspaper quoted Kioumourtzoglou as saying.

His assistant, Makis Dendinos, took over as coach.

Sports Ministry general-secretary Giorgos Vassilakopoulos, who is in Toronto, criticized Kioumourtzoglou but reserved judgment on Fasoulas.

Game Two of the best of three finals is today at 19:30 at Kibbutz Gezer. Game 3, if necessary, is Thursday, same time, same place. Entrance is free.

Dan Schnieder draws first blood

LARRY LEVENBERG

DAN Schnieder Sports staged a remarkable eight-run comeback in the 7th inning with two outs to beat Hapoel Benny 10-9 in the opening of the finals of the Jerusalem Post Softball League.

Benny Cohen's three-run triple ended the Hapoel heartbreaker and Mitch Plicker picked up the win in front of a moderate-sized crowd at Kibbutz Gezer.

For Hapoel, Kenny Cohen homered and Bart Tannenbaum pitched six solid innings until relieved.

Game Two of the best of three finals is today at 19:30 at Kibbutz Gezer. Game 3, if necessary, is Thursday, same time, same place. Entrance is free.

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Knesset Finance Committee okays NIS 520m. for Clalit

EVELYN GORDON and JUDY SIEGEL

SEST Bubb his ca long-Amer Lewis

THE Knesset Finance Committee yesterday approved a NIS 520 million emergency aid package for Kupat Holim Clalit, with all parties except the Likud supporting the move.

MKs from Shas, Yit'ud, and the NRP joined Labor and Meretz to give the coalition 12 votes in favor, with only five votes against.

The NIS 520m. is supposed to be an advance on money the health fund will receive as part of a recovery program. New regulations promulgated last week by Health Minister Ephraim Sneh state that such an advance is permissible, as long as a recovery deal is signed within 60 days of when the money is received. If not, the government theoretically has the right to recoup the money by withholding payments due Kupat Holim by the National Insurance Institute.

However, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat refused to say what he would do if such an agreement isn't ready by September 30, saying only that he hoped it would be.

"I hope that if we come to the committee again [for money] in September, we will come with a comprehensive recovery plan," he said. "But I can't say today that I am certain we will succeed."

Coalition MKs said they had no choice but to approve the funding, despite having threatened six weeks ago not to do so unless a recovery agreement had been signed.

"We're talking about a health fund which serves more than three million people," said committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor). "And I have registered the statement of the Histadrut secretary-general [Haim Ramon] that if all the parties don't do their part, he himself will go to court and ask for a receiver."

"If we appointed a receiver, that would cost more," added Avraham Poraz (Meretz).

However, Likud MKs attacked the decision.

"Since this government came to power, [it has given Kupat Holim] NIS 2 billion - and there's still no recovery plan," said Silvan Shalom.

The Likud appeared to be supported by committee legal adviser Anna Schneider. At the Likud's re-

quest, Schneider had investigated whether the funding request was legal. She concluded that it was, since the law gives Sneh the right to set the criteria, and the request met the new criteria which he issued last week.

"However, another question arises in this case... and that is the degree to which the health minister's policy is reasonable [Schneider's italics]... and especially the reasonableness of the new amendment, which allows the Health Ministry to give an advance to Kupat Holim before a comprehensive recovery agreement is signed," she wrote.

However, she said, it was the committee's place, rather than hers, to give an opinion on this question.

Meanwhile, Kupat Holim's union is to inform management today whether it accepts an offer to give low-paid workers their full leisure pay and half of their clothing allowances this month. But union chief Haim Baranes said he tended to reject the offer, because "it is clear management has enough money to pay the full amount for all."

Baranes said last night that the union will decide after meeting with Sneh. The doctors and nurses and the entire staff of Beit Levinstein and Meir and Beilinson hospitals have already agreed to accept delayed payments. However, the rest, more than 20,000 workers, demand all the allowances in their July salaries, to be paid on August 6.

Management said it would give half the leisure pay and the entire clothing allowances to workers earning less than NIS 3,000 gross; employees who earn more will have to wait. The union has threatened to apply sanctions starting August 6 unless management gives everyone at least 50 percent of their leisure and clothing allowances with their July paycheck. The allowances, paid once a year, total NIS 110 million. Sanctions could include refusal to collect fees for hospitalization, emergency room treatment, and medications.

Management said the workers must do their part to help the health fund recover financially. But the union argues that "everyone in the Histadrut got a full salary and allowances. We are the only ones left behind."

Maccabi accepting elderly applicants

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Maccabi Health Fund has put out the welcome mat for most people over 60 who want to join, in a departure from its long-standing policy of rejecting people of that age unless their grown children are already members.

Maccabi said yesterday that new members over the age of 60 may join and be entitled to the new nursing care insurance that is included at no cost in regular membership. Members aged 60-61 currently pay 30 percent more than younger people, those 62-63 40 percent, and those 64 and over 50 percent. In addition, everyone over 50 must sign a declaration about his medical condition, but Maccabi says that only those with

very severe illnesses will be rejected.

"Age is not the only criteria," said a spokeswoman. "Even today, we may reject someone who is 20 but has a very serious illness."

The health fund said it is reducing its "exclusivity" because it has expanded services and facilities and "is now able to accept" more elderly members.

The national health insurance law, due to go into effect in October, will prevent all the insurers from refusing any applicant, whatever his or her age or medical condition. In addition, pen-

sioners will pay a standard, low fee. The new Maccabi policy thus precedes the universal acceptance policy mandated by the law.

Asked to comment, Kupat Holim Clalit spokesman David Tagar said: "It's a shame that Maccabi only now remembered to be nice to the elderly. We don't expect to lose more than a handful of pensioners to Maccabi because our clinics are located in places convenient to the elderly and we have much experience treating them."

Meanwhile, Tagar announced that AIDS patients who require antibiotics and anti-fungal drugs will now get them free.

Bodinger: Arad is still alive

Missing IAF navigator Ron Arad is apparently alive, OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Herzl Bodinger said yesterday at a ceremony welcoming the first six of 50 surplus American F-16 fighter planes to arrive. He said information acquired from captive Hizbullah leader Mustafa Dirani has provided Israel with new leads in the Arad case.

The F-16s are part of the US commitment to the peace process. Bodinger noted, saying "They will help maintain Israel's qualitative edge over other countries in the Middle East." American pilots flew the planes to Israel from Germany.

'Davar' workers: Ramon is discouraging buyers

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

HISTADRUT Secretary-General Haim Ramon is driving away potential buyers of the Histadrut-owned *Davar* newspaper, by advising them that the Histadrut has no intention of honoring the workers' pension and severance agreements, sources at the paper said yesterday.

At least one potential buyer, New York-based attorney Leon Charney, was told by Efraim Reiner, whom Ramon has appointed to look into ways to rehabilitate *Davar*, that the paper has no assets or liabilities, but it does have a NIS 23 million pension and severance fee commitment, which the Histadrut does not intend to honor.

Charney said that he was considering buying *Davar*, but that he would not agree to accept responsibility for the pension and severance agreement. If the Histadrut does not honor it, anyone pensioned off or dismissed would have to go their compensation.

Reiner also told Charney that the Histadrut owes the workers nothing, because *Davar* is not really owned by the Histadrut

but by Davar Corporation Ltd.

Davar sources confirmed that other potential buyers - including owners of certain local newspapers - have also been discouraged by this approach, "which proves that Ramon has no real intention of either saving *Davar* or even selling it," one worker said.

Reiner told *Davar* workers in a meeting on Sunday that he himself will see to it that the pension and severance agreements with them are voided, and suggested they hire a lawyer to help them.

Davar works committee head Efraim Davidi said yesterday that the Histadrut's claim that it does not own the newspaper is misleading.

"The Davar Corporation is a legal fiction, intended to enable the Histadrut to evade its commitments to the workers," he said. "It is commonly known that *Davar* belongs to the Histadrut, which is its real and official owner, and we will insist that the Histadrut keep all the wage agreements its leaders have signed with the workers."

"How can the Histadrut, as the workers' protector, go to private and public employers and demand that they stand behind their wage agreements, when it violates signed agreements with the workers of its own newspaper?" he asked.

Davidi added that the Histadrut could not claim that it did not manage *Davar*, because for several years it had failed to appoint a director-general, board of directors or management for the newspaper, and managed it directly.

Other workers noted how for months Ramon said he did not need a newspaper, and the Histadrut did not need a newspaper, which is why he planned to shut *Davar* down. Now, they said, he was claiming *Davar* does not belong to the Histadrut at all.

Right agitated over remarks in Likud on accords

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

A FERMENT has erupted in the Right over whether to support the agreement with Jordan, and how to deal with the division in the Likud over supporting the Gaza/Jericho accord with the PLO.

Tsomet yesterday attacked the Likud, following remarks by some Likud leaders, including Knesset faction chairman Moshe Katsav, that the Oslo agreement should be accepted as a fait accompli. Tsomet demanded convening the opposition leaders to discuss these comments.

Tsomet MK Moshe Peled claimed that such statements indicated that the Likud has lost its leadership status in the "national camp, and can no longer lead in the battle over Eretz Yisrael, from the Jordan to the sea."

Tsomet noted, however, that it supported the agreements with Jordan.

Likud MK Michael Eitan also attacked his party leaders, for agreeing to support the Washington Declaration without any party debate or official resolution first.

Eitan said that a meeting of the Likud's Knesset faction, set for last Thursday, to discuss the issue had been canceled, because the party leaders feared that objections to the Washington Declaration would somehow mar the atmosphere at their meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin last Friday.

After the meeting with Rabin, Eitan said, Likud Chairman Binjamin Netanyahu's people announced that they support the agreement with Jordan. Eitan said that the Likud should have at least demanded of Rabin that he uphold the Labor Party's own platform, which states that the Jordan River is Israel's security border.

"The Likud is even worse than [King] Hussein," Eitan said. "He [the king] at least set conditions before surrendering. The Likud saw Rabin and lost its head."

Netanyahu said that the Likud will hold a faction meeting before the Knesset debate on the Washington Declaration tomorrow.

He reiterated his support for the agreement with Jordan, and said he believed most Likud members also support it, though they oppose the agreement with the PLO. "It's true that the Gaza/Jericho agreement has turned into a fact and we must find the ways to prevent the inherent dangers in implementing it," he said.



German Finance Minister Theo Waigel presents Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin with a gift yesterday. (Brian Heidler)

Hrawi reiterates Lebanon's commitment to Syria

DAVID RUDGE and news agencies

LEBANESE President Elias Hrawi maintained yesterday that real and lasting peace cannot be achieved without Syria and Lebanon.

Hrawi, who spoke at ceremony near Beirut to mark Lebanon's Army Day, reiterated his country's commitment to coordinate any developments in the peace talks with Syria, which maintains tens of thousands of troops in Lebanon.

"There will be no peace in the Middle East without Syria and Lebanon, irrespective of all the separate signatures they [Israel] collect," Hrawi was quoted as saying in news agency reports.

The Lebanese government has promised to deploy half of its 50,000-strong army in the south of the country and curb Hizbullah attacks against the security zone after Israel announces a timetable for a complete withdrawal from the region.

Hrawi's comments came as Lebanese newspapers reported that the threat of a widespread IDF operation against Hizbullah targets, in response to the Buenos Aires and

London bombings, had receded.

Virtually all the newspapers yesterday said that a major IDF operation was unlikely in view of US Secretary of State Warren Christopher's pending return to the region next week.

Several newspapers said the fact that the finger of blame was now pointing more towards Iran, rather than specifically at Hizbullah and some of the organization's members, had also eased the fear of an IDF offensive.

IDF sources have consistently denied earlier Lebanese press reports of a build-up of troops, tanks, and artillery pieces in the zone and along the northern border.

The only tense spot in the region yesterday was in Yochmor village, which, according to reports from Lebanon, has been under siege since last Monday's Hizbullah attack on IDF and South Lebanese Army targets in the zone. An IDF paratrooper officer was killed and 13 other soldiers wounded, one of them seriously, in those attacks.

Reports from Lebanon said representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross entered Yochmor, just north of the zone, taking supplies of water, food, and medicine to the 180 families there.

The reports said the ICRC members had to walk into the village because of a huge ditch which had been dug by IDF bulldozers in the middle of the main access road, effectively cutting it off from the rest of Lebanon.

Military sources in Israel have denied the allegations, saying troops are in the area to thwart Hizbullah operations but are not laying siege to the village.

Nevertheless, reports from Lebanon said there was still a curfew on Yochmor and residents were afraid to move around openly for fear of being shot by IDF or SLA soldiers.

Meanwhile, Hizbullah claimed responsibility for Sunday's roadside bomb attack against a civilian car in the Beit Yaboun area in the western sector of the security zone.

Three SLA men, two teenage girls, and a four-year-old boy were wounded in the blast.

Medical Corps asks public to contribute to Rwanda operation

ALON PINKAS

THE IDF Medical Corps yesterday appealed to the public to assist in both financing and donating material to continue operation "Buds of Hope," the medical relief effort on the Rwanda-Zaire border.

The operation, whose total cost to date exceeds NIS 60 million, will be continued for at least three more weeks, according to a Sunday cabinet decision, reached after Environment Minister Yoel Sarel reported on the achievements of the Israeli MASH unit deployed in Goma. The mortality rate as a result of cholera declined from 27 per 100 to just 5, but other diseases, such as measles and dysentery, threaten to take the death toll higher.

At this point, the cost will be

covered by the defense budget, but further costs may compel the Defense Ministry to reassess the operation, which is why alternative financing is being sought.

Telephone, 03-5306342, and fax, 03-5306346, numbers have been set up to help with the donations.

The Medical Corps asks that the public help finance the continuation of the operation, but also contribute blankets, mattresses and other items, specified by the army upon request. Magen David Adom also began a campaign to assist the operation, and opened a bank account in which citizens can deposit their contributions. Magen David account number 280000/07, Bank Leumi, Yad Eliahu branch, Tel Aviv.

Haredim force archeologists to halt Modi'in excavation

Jerusalem Post Staff

ARCHAEOLOGICAL excavations in Modi'in have been suspended, Israel Radio reported last night. At a meeting at the Prime Minister's Office, it was decided to suspend the excavations until a meeting is arranged next week with Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron.

Twenty haredim were detained for questioning yesterday by Lod police, after they blocked the road leading to the archeological excavations near Modi'in.

Some 120 haredim, about half affiliated with the Atra Kadisha, congregated at the site in the morning and blocked access to the section containing the graves.

Last night, hundreds of haredim protested in Jerusalem against the excavations and attempted to block the entrance to Mea She'arim.

Last week, several dozen haredim interfered with the excavations and 10 were arrested. Following a meeting between several ministers and Bakshi-Doron, it was agreed to stop the work, to allow for discussions between haredim and officials.

The Antiquities Authority is conducting the digs in advance of construction at the site. It insists that the graves uncovered so far are those of Christians.

Driver says Egged hasn't learned lessons of Hadera bombing

ALON PINKAS

SINCE the suicide bombing attack on a bus in Hadera in April, Egged has made no changes in security procedures and there is no reason such an attack could not happen again, the driver of the bombed bus told the Jenin Military Court yesterday.

The driver, Meir Weisel, was testifying at the trial of Mohammed Badrana of Kafr Yabud and Taber Kabana, of East Barta'a, who are accused of equipping and assisting Amr Amrana in the suicide attack at the Hadera central bus station. The trial opened yesterday.

Weisel said Amrana had not looked suspicious when he boarded the bus on April 13. He had explosives strapped to his body, which blew up the bus, killing five people and wounding 29.

Badrana, a Hamas cell leader, is charged with recruiting Amrana to carry out the attack. Kabana is accused of arranging Amrana's transportation into Israel with the help of an Israeli Arab from West Barta'a.

The two are also charged with planning other, similar attacks, and with possessing firearms and explosives.

The court has the option of sentencing the two to death, although the military prosecutor did not demand the death penalty.

The hearing was marred by a confrontation between the three defense lawyers who arrived late, and the judges, who decided to fine the lawyers.

Army, police and General Security Service officials testified on the investigation and the eventual apprehension of the two.

According to their testimonies, the Hamas cell consisted of four members aside from Badrana, and the cell had carried out other attacks. Material to produce powerful explosive devices were later found in Yabud.

IAI workers stage lockout to protest giving work to Spain

AMIR ROZENBLIT

OVER 4,000 Israel Aircraft Industries workers in Beer Sheva began sanctions yesterday, in protest against management's decision to shift production of certain parts for the Astra executive jet to a Spanish company.

Workers at the IAI's Ramat subsidiary locked the plant gates in the morning to block shipments and held protest meetings against the decision. Among placards hung on the main gate was one reading, "IAI - A Plant that Devours its Workers."

Engineers union representative Avi Yisraeli said, "We've changed from a factory that produces systems for airplanes into a plant that produces fired workers and pensioners."

Works committee head David

Bunker said, "We're demonstrating against the board of directors' vile decision to take work from us and give it to workers in Spain. We've been making a living for years from this work and we won't agree to handing this work to companies like Spain."

In response, an IAI source said yesterday that, "The Ramat plant has completed the production of a certain series of parts for one of the aircraft produced by the Israel Aircraft Industries, and before the introduction of a new product line we will experiment with allocating the work."

The source predicted that the problem would be resolved soon and the workers' sanctions would end.

Reporter sentenced for Demjanjuk copy

A JOURNALIST from Yediot Aharonot, convicted of violating sub judice laws, has been given a two-month suspended prison sentence by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court. The paper was fined NIS 5,000.

Reporter Noah Klieger wrote a series of 22 articles for the daily while the trial of accused Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk was in progress. His stories, said the

prosecution, alleged Demjanjuk's guilt before a verdict was given, thus violating sub judice laws.

In sentencing Klieger, Judge Nurit Ahituv said that while she understood that the reporter wrote from personal pain, he did not just write one article but 22. However, seven years have passed since the offenses were committed, she noted.

Raine Marcus

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